



CITY COMMISSION MEETING CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH

155 Corey Avenue
St. Pete Beach, FL 33706

Tuesday, November 14, 2023
6:00 PM

Call to Order
Pledge of Allegiance
Roll Call

REGULAR MEETING

1. Approval of the Agenda -

Action Request: Motion to approve the November 14, 2023 City Commission Agenda.

2. Audience Comments -

Public participation is encouraged. If you wish to address the City Commission, please fill out a speaker's card and provide it to the City Clerk. Once you are called, please come to the podium and state your name and address for the record. Comments shall be limited to 3 minutes and shall be limited to non-public hearing items on the agenda. Public comment on agenda items will be allowed when that item is called. If you plan to make a presentation as part of your public comment, the presentation must be provided to the City Clerk 24- hours in advance of the meeting.

3. Consent -

a. November 6, 2023 City Commission Meeting Minutes

4. Action Items -

a. Pinellas County Multi-Jurisdictional Community Rating System Annual Report for Program for Public Information, Flood Insurance Improvement Plan and Flood Response Plan dated January 2023

Program for Public Information Index annual presentation to the City Commission.

Action Request: Motion to approve the Pinellas County Multi-Jurisdictional Community Rating System Annual Report for Program for Public

Information, Flood Insurance Improvement Plan, and Flood Response Plan dated January 2023.

5. Ordinances -

a. Public Hearing Ordinance 2023-15: Fire Pension Membership to Florida Retirement System

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH, FLORIDA RELATED TO MEMBERSHIP INTO THE FLORIDA RETIREMENT SYSTEM PROVIDING FOR CORRECTION OF SCRIVENER'S ERROR; CONSTRUCTION; PUBLICATION; AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Action Request: Motion to adopt Ordinance 2023-15.

6. Resolutions -

a. Resolution 2023-22: Records Management Policy

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH, FLORIDA, ADOPTING A RECORDS MANAGEMENT POLICY ADDRESSING RECORDS RETENTION AND DISPOSITION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, CONFLICT, CORRECTION OF SCRIVENER'S ERROR; AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Action Request: Motion to adopt Resolution 2023-22.

7. Items for Discussion -

a. Freebee FY24 Service Expansion Discussion

8. City Clerk, City Manager, City Attorney and City Commission Reports -

9. Adjournment -

APPEAL: In accordance with 286.0105, Florida Statute (Notices of meetings and hearings must advise that a record is required to appeal), if a person decides to appeal any decision made by this committee, board, agency, or commission with respect to any matter considered at this meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA): In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Florida Statutes, if any person with a disability defined by the ADA needs special accommodation to participate in this proceeding, then not later than two business days prior to the proceeding, he or she should contact City Hall at (727) 367-2735.

PUBLIC COMMENT INSTRUCTIONS FOR THOSE NOT PHYSICALLY PRESENT:

The City has made accommodations for those who cannot be physically present, or do not feel comfortable appearing in person, due to COVID-19. If a member of the public would like to provide comments for the meetings, they may do so in the following ways:

- Email the City Clerk by 5:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting at cityclerk@stpetebeach.org
- Leave a voicemail message by calling **727.363.9225** by 1:00 p.m. the day of the meeting
- Upload or submit a video or audio file online by 1:00 p.m. the day of the meeting at <https://www.stpetebeach.org/PublicComment>

In your three (3) minute or less comment, please be sure to include your name and address for the record.

The public is cordially invited to attend this meeting.

All agenda material is available for review at City Hall or www.stpetebeach.org.

DRAFT
City Commission Meeting
November 6, 2023
6:00 p.m.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Adrian Petrilă, Mayor
Mark Grill, Vice Mayor, Commissioner, District 2
Chris Graus, Commissioner, District 1
Ward Friszolowski, Commissioner, District 3
Chris Marone, Commissioner, District 4

STAFF PRESENT:

Andrew Dickman, City Attorney
Wayne Saunders, City Manager
Amber LaRowe, City Clerk
Matthew McConnell, Assistant City Attorney
Mike Clarke, Public Works Director
Jennifer McMahon, Chief Operating Officer

Mayor Petrilă called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. PRESENTATIONS

a. National Wildlife Federation Tampa Bay Project Presentation

Amanda R. Moore, National Wildlife Federation Director – Gulf Program, made a presentation to the City Commission on their recent project in Tampa Bay. A copy of the presentation is made a part of the record. Please visit their website <https://www.nwf.org/en/Our-Work/Waters/Gulf-Restoration/Dear-Tampa> for more information.

2. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

City Manager Saunders requested the removal of 4.e. IWorq Software Renewal.

Mrs. McMahon informed the Commission that the applicant for item 4.c. CABA Christmas Land Parade asked to have it removed.

Motion: Commissioner Marone moved, Commissioner Friszolowski seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to approve the November 6, 2023 City Commission Agenda.

3. AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Resident John Kurzman provided comments on parking lots, poor signage, and towing. He also provided comments on the consideration of wider bike lanes as it relates to road projects such as Boca Ciega Isle and Gulf Winds Drive.

Resident Deborah Schechner complimented tonight's presentation. She also expressed appreciation for the programs held at the Library and Community Center. Mrs. Schechner expressed her opinions on the increased development and the hardship it creates for the City.

4. CONSENT

- a. October 24th City Commission Meeting Minutes: 3:00 p.m. Workshop and 6:00 p.m. Regular Meeting
- b. PAG Beach Fire
- c. ~~CABA Christmas Land Parade removed~~
- d. Purchase of a Parks Truck
- e. ~~IWork Software Renewal removed~~

Motion: Commissioner Friszolowski moved, Vice Mayor Grill seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to approve the November 6, 2023, City Commission Consent Agenda as modified.

5. ACTION ITEMS

a. City Wide Holiday Decorations

Mrs. McMahon reminded the Commission of the 3-year agreement with Rileighs Outdoor, LLC. that was signed in 2022. This agreement was part of a piggyback agreement with the City of Treasure Island. As shown in the attachment, the proposal for decorations this year totals \$76,880.00. Mrs. McMahon confirmed that Duke Energy is ensuring that the electricity is working on the poles. Regarding Gulf Boulevard median lighting, those will be solar-powered.

Mrs. McMahon stated that the City issued a request for proposals in September with no responses received. She and the Procurement Manager will issue a request for proposals in the spring of 2024 for holiday lighting next year.

Vice Mayor Grill requested the City work on forming a committee of citizens who can review the lighting proposals.

The Commission discussed the possibility of a public/private partnership for more consistent lighting along Gulf Boulevard.

Motion: Commissioner Graus moved, Commissioner Marone seconded the motion to approve and accept Rileighs Outdoor, LLC proposal in the amount of \$76,880.00 for City wide holiday decorations.

Resident Terri Orr commented on the funds for holiday decorations and opined that there may be better use of that for other projects. He agreed that the City should work to obtain a public/private partnership with the businesses along Gulf Boulevard.

The motion on the floor carried 5-0.

b. Pump Station 1 Rehabilitation – Pump Package Direct Purchase

Mike Clarke, Public Works Director, stated that Xylem Water Solutions USA, Inc. is the only authorized vendor for Flygt Products and is the only authorized service repair and warranty organization in the State of Florida. This pump and controls package will be installed as part of the upcoming rehabilitation of master pump station 1. Mr. Clarke confirmed a savings of approximately \$98,910.00 in sales tax by directly purchasing these items. There is a 5-year warranty that begins upon delivery.

Motion: Commissioner Graus moved, Vice Mayor Grill seconded the motion to approve the sole source purchase with Xylem Water Solutions USA, Inc. for Flygt pumps, controllers, and associated pump package in the amount of \$1,413,000.00.

Resident Terri Orr asked several questions regarding this pipe, installation, disruption, and cost. The questions were answered by the Commission, Public Works Director, and City Manager.

The motion on the floor carried 5-0.

c. 45th Avenue Stormwater Improvements

Mr. Clarke briefed the Commission on the timeline of this project as outlined in the Agenda Memorandum. After the survey data was collected by Halff, it was apparent that an elevation change was needed; this task order will allow Halff to develop a design package for the bidding on the construction of a new gravity stormwater collection system with pump station and force main discharge to Boca Ciega Bay.

The timeline was discussed as well as the time projections for other projects in the City. It was requested by the Commission that staff place information on the City's website on major projects to inform the residents on timelines.

Motion: Vice Mayor Grill moved, Commissioner Friszolowski seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to approve expenditures with Halff Associates, Inc. for 45th Avenue Drainage Improvements Design in the amount of \$191,400.00.

d. Lot Split #23079: 102 15th Avenue

The applicant could not be present for tonight's meeting and requested a continuance.

Motion: Vice Mayor Grill moved, Commissioner Graus seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to continue the hearing on Lot Split #23079 to the December 12, 2023, City Commission meeting.

e. Comprehensive Plan Review Discussion and Action

The Mayor asked for the Commission to discuss narrowing the scope on this project. The following was decided upon to place into the scope for this project:

- Focus on Gulf Boulevard and Corey Avenue
- Density – Intensity – Height
- Economic analysis incorporated into the review
 - Focus on units per acre with various decreasing options and what economic impact is per threshold
- Legal implications

Attorney Dickman suggested the City retain the attorney directly instead of via the consultant which will allow the City to have more oversight and better direction; the Commission agreed.

Motion: Commissioner Marone moved, Commissioner Friszolowski seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to select Calvin, Giordano & Associates, Inc. to work with the City on a Comprehensive Plan review.

6. ORDINANCES

a. First Reading Ordinance 2023-15: Fire Pension Membership to Florida Retirement System

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH, FLORIDA RELATED TO MEMBERSHIP INTO THE FLORIDA RETIREMENT SYSTEM PROVIDING FOR CORRECTION OF SCRIVENER'S ERROR; CONSTRUCTION; PUBLICATION; AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Ordinance is required as part of the transfer of the Fire Pension Plan into the Florida Retirement System.

Motion: Commissioner Friszolowski moved, Commissioner Graus seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2023-15.

b. Public Hearing Ordinance 2023-07: Fire Pension Plan Participation in the Florida Retirement System

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 66, PENSIONS AND RETIREMENT, ARTICLE IV FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM, DIVISION 1, GENERALLY, DIVISION 2, ADMINISTRATION, AND DIVISION 3, BENEFITS OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH; AMENDING SECTION 66-253 "MEMBERSHIP"; AMENDING SECTION 66-252 "BENEFIT FREEZE AND MAXIMUM BENEFIT"; AMENDING SECTION 66-291(a) "BOARD OF TRUSTEES"; ADDING A NEW SECTION 66-297 "PLAN CLOSED TO NEW FIREFIGHTERS; PARTICIPATION IN THE FLORIDA RETIREMENT SYSTEM"; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; CONFLICTS; SEVERABILITY; CORRECTION OF SCRIVENER'S ERROR; CONSTRUCTION; PUBLICATION; AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

No changes to this Ordinance since the first reading during the last Commission Meeting.

Motion: Commissioner Graus moved, Vice Mayor Grill seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to adopt Ordinance 2023-07.

c. Public Hearing Ordinance 2023-09: Restriction on Use of Public Property

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH, FLORIDA AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 94-WATERWAYS, ARTICLE II – WATERCRAFT, SECTION 94-33 – RESTRICTIONS ON USE OF PUBLIC PROPERTY; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; CONFLICTS; SEVERABILITY; CORRECTION OF SCRIVENER'S ERROR; CONSTRUCTION; PUBLICATION; AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Attorney McConnell reminded the Commission that the boat ramps located on Maritana Drive and Egan Park will now be closed from 10:00 p.m. until 5:00 a.m. except for Federal Holidays which will be closed from 11:59 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. Staff is working on a proper permit with a cost, if any, to be minimal.

Resident John Kurzman expressed his opinions on the adoption of the Ordinance; he was neither in favor nor opposed.

Motion: Commissioner Marone moved, Commissioner Friszolowski seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to adopt Ordinance 2023-09.

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

a. Virtual Participation

Amber LaRowe, City Clerk, discussed the information as shared in the Agenda packet. She recapped her research and the Attorney General Opinions on this topic. The Legal team, City Manager, and she all agree that the best approach would be to allow virtual participation options in workshop meetings where no action is taken.

Discussion ensued. Mrs. LaRowe expressed her hesitation about allowing public participation via virtual means due to staffing requirements that would be necessary to efficiently manage. She also expressed her concerns about voting virtually during a quasi-judicial proceeding.

Attorney Dickman and Mrs. LaRowe will discuss some options to bring forward to the Commission as soon as possible.

Resident John Kurzman expressed his appreciation for the advancement in the virtual options and other means the City has for public participation.

b. ADA Discussion and Possible Action

Mrs. LaRowe recapped her research on this topic as provided in the Agenda packet. The Chief Operating Officer shared some information from 2016 to 2018 where the City was working with a consultant on the development of an ADA Transition Plan as required.

The Commission discussed the information provided and asked the City Manager to consider which department(s) should be designated as the City's ADA Coordinator.

8. CITY CLERK, CITY MANAGER, CITY ATTORNEY, AND CITY COMMISSION REPORTS

Commissioner Friszolowski – mentioned the Don CeSar Property Owners' Corporation meeting on Wednesday at the Don Vista, it begins at 6:00 p.m.

Commissioner Friszolowski exited the meeting at 8:23 p.m.

Wayne Saunders, City Manager – had a meeting with Duke Energy about pole removal and Duke's efforts to work with other utility companies to remove their equipment off of the poles.

He mentioned House Bill 1 and Senate Bill 2 that could impact land development regulations.

The City is conducting a second round of interviews for the HR Administrator position. He asked the Commission if the title for this position could be changed to HR Director with no change to salary range; the Commission agreed.

Commissioner Marone – mentioned the constant off and on of power in Vina del Mar which he surmises is due to half of the electrical being underground and half of it not. He understands the City does not have the budget to underground the remaining electricity but asked if staff could reach out to Duke Energy to inquire about any hardening options.

Mr. Marone discussed the speeding in West Vina and is working with the City Manager on appropriate steps to mitigate that.

He mentioned the dunes and stated that the City is waiting on the permit from the Department of Environmental Protection to install barricades on the dunes which will allow the beach to be opened back up to the public. The Commission discussed the presence of the Sheriff's Office at the dunes.

Commissioner Marone mentioned the 1st Avenue jetty project that will be underway soon.

The Pass-A-Grille Beach bonfire is on December 14th.

Vice Mayor Grill – mentioned the reclaimed water breaks and asked the City to reach out to the County to have a joint meeting on working towards a resolution.

He reminded everyone of election day tomorrow and of Veteran's Day on Saturday.

Commissioner Graus – suggested the new HR Director and the Communications Manager could work together to be the ADA Coordinator for the City.

He commented on the issue of power in Vina stating that when this was happening in his District, Duke Energy took the initiative to underground/harden at their expense.

Mayor Petrila – read from an email he received from Kelli Levy, County Public Works Director, and the ongoing efforts of dune renourishment, the timeline for Pass-A-Grille Beach Dune completion, and beach renourishment with or without the help of the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers.

Mayor Petrila adjourned the meeting at 8:43 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVED:

AMBER LAROWE
CITY CLERK

ADRIAN PETRILA
MAYOR

CITY COMMISSION MEETING CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH

Agenda Report

Issue Considered: Pinellas County Multi-Jurisdictional Community Rating System Annual Report for Program for Public Information, Flood Insurance Improvement Plan and Flood Response Plan dated January 2023

Date: November 6, 2023

Prepared By: Julie Anderson, Building Manager

Through: Wayne Saunders, Interim City Manager

Summary of Issue: The 2020 Pinellas County Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) is a unified countywide strategy intended to create a guide for unified action to reduce the impact of future disasters that threaten Pinellas County and its municipalities. The first Pinellas County LMS was completed in 1999 and was subsequently adopted by St Pete Beach through Resolution No. 99-48. It was most recently adopted by the City in 2020 by Resolution 2020-24.

The Pinellas County Program for Public Information (PPI) is an appendix of the Pinellas County LMS. FEMA requires staff to provide the Annual Report for PPI to the City Commission every year. City staff and resident stakeholders participate in periodic meetings to discuss various topics related to the program and make decisions on what activities to pursue. The attached Annual Report summarizes our efforts.

Funding: N/A

Requested Motion: Motion to approve the Pinellas County Multi-Jurisdictional Community Rating System Annual Report for Program for Public Information, Flood Insurance Improvement Plan and Flood Response Plan dated January 2023

Attachments: 1. Pinellas PPI Annual Report 2023

**PINELLAS COUNTY
MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL
COMMUNITY RATING SYSTEM ANNUAL REPORT
FOR
PROGRAM FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION,
FLOOD INSURANCE IMPROVEMENT PLAN AND FLOOD
RESPONSE PLAN**

Pinellas County | January, 2023



**PINELLAS COUNTY
MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL
COMMUNITY RATING SYSTEM ANNUAL REPORT**

Prepared for:

Pinellas County and Participating Municipalities
22211 US Hwy. 19 N.
Clearwater, FL 33765

January, 2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1 INTRODUCTION AND PLANNING COMMITTEE	1
2 ASSESSMENT OF PUBLIC INFORMATION NEEDS AND TARGET AUDIENCES.....	5
3 MESSAGES AND OUTCOMES	6
4 PROGRAM FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION (PPI) PROJECTS.....	6
FRMPIWG SharePoint Toolkit	6
Flood Response Plan	7
5 FLOOD INSURANCE IMPROVEMENT PLAN	7

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1-1	FRMPIWG Core Members	2
Table 1-2	FRMPIWG Additional Support	3
Table 2-1	PPI Meetings	5

APPENDICES

Appendix A – Key Messages
Appendix B – Status of PPI Projects
Appendix C – Flood Response Plan
Appendix D – Flood Insurance Improvement Plan

1 INTRODUCTION AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

This annual report presents the ongoing status of Pinellas County's Program for Public Information (PPI), which includes the flood insurance and flood response plans. This program is the floodplain management outreach arm of the Countywide Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS). The PPI includes all unincorporated areas of Pinellas County as well as 16 of its partner municipalities. Participating municipalities are listed below.

- Town of Belleair
- City of Belleair Beach
- City of Clearwater
- City of Gulfport
- City of Indian Rocks Beach
- Town of Indian Shores
- City of Madeira Beach
- City of Oldsmar
- City of Pinellas Park
- Town of Redington Beach
- Town of Redington Shores
- City of South Pasadena
- City of St. Petersburg
- City of St. Pete Beach
- City of Tarpon Springs
- City of Treasure Island

Staff and stakeholders from these jurisdictions comprise the Pinellas County Flood Risk and Mitigation Public Information Working Group (FRMPIWG), which serves as the PPI committee as well as the stakeholder working group for the LMS. Having the same group of staff and stakeholders for both results in better coordination and consistency in messaging countywide and avoids duplication of efforts among the various initiatives to reduce flood risk and damage. Not only does this committee meet the basic CRS PPI requirements, but they also evaluate Flood Insurance Coverage, Floodplain Management, Flood Warning and Response, and provide input to the multi-jurisdictional LMS. The FRMPIWG Core Members and Additional Support tables were updated to reflect personnel changes (Table 1-1 and Table 1-2).

Table 1-1 FRMPIWG Core Members

Jurisdiction Represented	Staff/Stakeholder	Name	Affiliation
Pinellas County	Staff	Libby Bolling	Pinellas County Marketing & Communications – PIO
Pinellas County	Staff	Lisa Foster	Floodplain Administrator
Pinellas County	Stakeholder	Ashley Tharp	Wright Flood, Corporate Agent Training Manager
Pinellas County	Stakeholder	Cece McKiernan	Florida Floodplain Managers Association, Executive Director
Belleair	Staff	Greg Lauda	Floodplain Manager
Belleair	Stakeholder	Tom Shelly	Florida Real Estate Broker
Belleair Beach	Staff	Kyle Riefler	Interim City Manager
Belleair Beach	Stakeholder	Marv Behm	Resident
Clearwater	Staff	Sarah Kessler	City of Clearwater
Clearwater	Stakeholder	Bill Jonson	Former Councilmember
Gulfport	Staff	Michael Taylor	Community Development Principal Planner
Gulfport	Stakeholder	Mike Whitman	WhitCo Insurance Agency
Indian Rocks Beach	Staff	Dean Scharmen	Public Services Director
Indian Rocks Beach	Stakeholder	Ron Sacara	Resident
Indian Shores	Staff	Darin Cushing	Building Official
Indian Shores	Stakeholder	Katrena Hales-Claver	Calusa Vacations LTD
Madeira Beach	Staff	Susan Portal	CRS Coordinator
Madeira Beach	Stakeholder	Vincent Gadrix	Gulf Beaches Public Library Director
Oldsmar	Staff	Deb Vitrali	Marketing Specialist / PIO
Oldsmar	Stakeholder	Paula Saracki	Resident/Business Owner
Pinellas Park	Staff	Derek Reeves	Planning & Development Services Principal Planner
Pinellas Park	Stakeholder	Linda Yang	FL Strategic Insurance
Redington Beach	Staff	Adriana Nieves	Deputy Clerk
Redington Beach	Stakeholder	Thomas Dorgan	Resident
Redington Shores	Staff	Jolie Patterson	Deputy Town Clerk
Redington Shores	Stakeholder	Kimberly Harr	Harr & Associates, Inc.
South Pasadena	Staff	Terri Sullivan	Building Official
South Pasadena	Stakeholder	Suzanne Burtzlaff	The Fountains Executive Director
St. Petersburg	Staff	Noah Taylor	CRS Coordinator
St. Petersburg	Stakeholder	Jake Holehouse	HH Insurance
St. Pete Beach	Staff	Bill Palmer	Building Official
St. Pete Beach	Stakeholder	Chris Hollands	Local Business Owner
Tarpon Springs	Staff	Megan Araya	Floodplain Coordinator

Jurisdiction Represented	Staff/Stakeholder	Name	Affiliation
Tarpon Springs	Stakeholder	Barbara Mamouzelos	Resident
Treasure Island	Staff	Jamie Viveiros	Assistant CDD Director
Treasure Island	Stakeholder	Clyde Smith	General Manager, Bilmar Resort

Table 1-2 FRMPIWG Additional Support

Jurisdiction Represented	Name	Affiliation
Pinellas County	David Connor	Pinellas County
Pinellas County	Alissa Berro	Pinellas County
Pinellas County	Anamarie Rivera	Pinellas County - Environmental Services
Pinellas County	Angela Dunkel	Pinellas County - PIE Airport/Engineering
Pinellas County	Barbara Hernandez	Pinellas County - BCC
Pinellas County	Glen-Paul Edson	Pinellas County - Pinellas County Mosquito Control
Pinellas County	Mary Burrell	Pinellas County - Emergency Management
Pinellas County	Rhonda Bowman	Pinellas County - CIP Survey
Pinellas County	Jessica Williams	Wright Flood
Pinellas County	Brad Hubbard	National Flood Experts
Pinellas County	Brian Ellis	Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council
Pinellas County	Cara Serra	Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council
Pinellas County	Cheryl Morales	Pinellas Public Library Cooperative (PPLC), Executive Director
Pinellas County	Christopher Weaver	Florida Strategic Insurance
Pinellas County	CJ Reynolds	Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council
Pinellas County	Dawn Forrest	Wright Flood
Pinellas County	Jim Watt	SmartVent & Risk Reduction Plus
Pinellas County	Joe Farrell	Pinellas Realtor Organization, Director of Governmental Affairs
Pinellas County	John Hibbard	Weisner Insurance
Pinellas County	John Toomer	Reliant Insurance Services
Pinellas County	Katherine Howington	Flood Insurance Specialist
Pinellas County	Laura Klement	Douglas Elliman Real Estate
Pinellas County	Mallory Arents	PPLC Services Coordinator
Pinellas County	Marty Sorensen	Resident
Pinellas County	Maxine Moore	Pinellas County – Floodplain Technician
Pinellas County	Nate Coco	State Farm
Pinellas County	Nelson Garcia	Sunpoint Home Loans
Pinellas County	Rick Haupricht	Greenleaf Title
Pinellas County	Sally Bishop	Resident
Pinellas County	Siobhan O'Kane	Urban Land Institute
Pinellas County	Vicki Russo	Resident
Belleair	Keith Bodeker	Belleair - Town of Belleair
Belleair	Debbie Darling	Belleair CC
Clearwater	Jared Leone	Clearwater
Clearwater	Steve Kessler	City of Clearwater
Gulfport	Clark Streicher	Gulfport - Building Official
Gulfport	Karen Brodeur	WhitCo Insurance Agency
Hillsborough County	Christine Hummel	Hillsborough County

Jurisdiction Represented	Name	Affiliation
Hillsborough County	Eugene Henry	Hillsborough County
Indian Rocks Beach	Dean Scharmen	Indian Rocks Beach - Public Services Director
Indian Rocks Beach	Eric Meyer	Resident
Indian Shores	Darin Cushing	Indian Shores - Building Official
Indian Shores	Robert E. Lyons	Sunwest Construction LLC
Madeira Beach	Derryl O'Neal	Madeira Beach - Madeira Beach
Madeira Beach	Gwen Sinkfield	Madeira Beach - Madeira Beach
Oldsmar	Daniel Simpson	Oldsmar - City Engineer
Oldsmar	Felicia Donnelly	Oldsmar
Oldsmar	Gregg Silliman	Oldsmar - Code Enforcement Officer
Oldsmar	Mandi Clark	Oldsmar - Planning Technician
Oldsmar	Michele Parisano	Oldsmar - CRA Administrator/Planning Manager
Pasco County	Bob Cobelli	Pasco County - Pasco County
Pinellas Park	Derek Reeves	Pinellas Park - Planning & Development Services Principal Planner
Pinellas Park	Carol Ashman	RockBridge Insurance
Pinellas Park	Housh Ghovae	Gateway Chamber of Commerce
Pinellas Park	Linda Yang	FI Strategic Insurance
Redington Beach	Darin Cushing	Redington Beach - Building Official/FPM
Redington Beach	Annie Fleeting	Owner, Next Home Beach Time Realty
Redington Beach	Thomas Dorgan	Resident
Redington Shores	Vincent LaPorte	Redington Shores – Building Official
Redington Shores	Jeff Shoobridge	Redington Shores – Town Administrator
Redington Shores	Bill Blackburn	Resident
South Pasadena	Ashley Dochinez	South Pasadena - Building Services Coordinator
South Pasadena	Doug Izzo	Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber of Commerce
St. Petersburg	Amber Boulding	St. Petersburg - St. Pete Emergency Management
St. Petersburg	Kyla Brelanel	St. Petersburg - St. Pete Emergency Management
St. Petersburg	Chris Dailey	Shore Acres Civic Association
St. Petersburg	Chris Simoniello	USF St. Pete
St. Petersburg	Frank Malowany	Smith & Associates
St. Petersburg	Jake Holehouse	HH Insurance
St. Pete Beach	Lyn Rosetti	St. Pete Beach - Senior Planner
Tarpon Springs	Kevin Powell	Tarpon Springs - Building Official
Tarpon Springs	Joan Jennings	Resident
Treasure Island	Paula Cohen	Treasure Island - Director CID
Treasure Island	Brian Ford	Insurance Resources
Consultant	Chris Zambito	Atkins
Consultant	Khan Bouphe	Jones Edmunds

2 ASSESSMENT OF PUBLIC INFORMATION NEEDS AND TARGET AUDIENCES

The PPI continues to be implemented for Pinellas County and its 16 participating communities. The committee members met three times in 2022 to evaluate the outreach initiatives and update the plan report, as well as provide input on the LMS. Table 2-1 describes the committee meetings. FRMPIWG meetings are advertised on the County's website (<https://pinellas.gov/boards-councils-and-committees/flood-risk-and-mitigation-public-information-working-group/>) and are open to the public.

Table 2-1 PPI Meetings

Date	Discussion Topics
January 28, 2022	The committee reviewed the status of the LMS and Multi-Jurisdictional PPI; revisited priority audiences and projects; discussed other public information efforts such as new audiences and projects; and reviewed the status of each outreach project for the municipalities. The FRMPIWG SharePoint Toolkit has been updated to include community events and awareness days/weeks on a shared calendar. This will allow for municipalities to be aware of what others are doing and keep track of upcoming awareness days/weeks to provide social media messages. Other notable discussions include the update of the Flood Guide and Real Estate Hazard Disclosure brochures, as well as the Blue-Sky Social Media Toolkit.
May 6, 2022	The committee reviewed the status of the LMS and Multi-Jurisdictional PPI, along with their adoption status. The project matrices for OP and FRP were presented to the committee and publicity requirements for outreach initiatives were discussed. These project matrices will assist communities in identifying the projects in the PPI, specifying projects they are currently implementing, and identifying projects they plan to implement for the year, as well as providing simpler tracking of project implementation. Other outreach project initiatives were discussed including standardizing outreach messages for social media campaigns throughout the year, updates to the Real Estate Disclosure Program, and dissemination of Repetitive Loss Area mailouts, as well as Annual Hurricane Preparedness Summits and updated Evacuation Zones were provided by Pinellas County Emergency Management.
October 28, 2022	The committee reviewed the status of the PPI and potential updates to the report, including revising existing messages, creating new projects, adding new topics with accompanying messages such as Resiliency and Sustainability, and the status of the outreach projects. The committee also discussed the LMS for messaging consistency and discussed the annual update. The committee will review the LMS in detail and provide additional comments to County staff to be incorporated into the LMS annual review.

During the meetings, the committee reviewed the types of flooding across the County and how each is being addressed through outreach and mitigation. The priority audiences and messages were also discussed and revised to better reflect new opportunities for reaching audiences and educating them about flood risks.

Significant floodplain management program changes occurred in 2022, including:

- FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) for the entire county were updated in 2021 and included significant changes, such as the addition of the Limit of Moderate Wave Action (LIMWA), which created a new flood zone, the Coastal A Zone.
- FEMA implemented Risk Rating 2.0 nationwide in 2021, an updated flood insurance rating methodology.
- Pinellas County, along with other municipalities, adopted the “Pinellas County Sea Level Rise and Storm Surge Vulnerability Assessment”, which includes maps and data for coastal flooding, including tidal flooding from sea level rise as well as current and future storm surge flooding.

As such, the committee discussed additional public information needs and identified a variety of outreach to address the changes.

3 MESSAGES AND OUTCOMES

Outreach campaign messages must be accurate and concise to result in action and positive outcomes. The Committee evaluated existing messages and identified a need for additional resiliency messaging that encourages building stronger for future storms. The committee has revised these messages to maintain consistent, accurate messaging throughout, which are detailed in Appendix A.

4 PROGRAM FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION (PPI) PROJECTS

In addition to discussing the effectiveness of each outreach initiative and message, new projects, such as the Tampa Bay News inserts, were also developed to streamline the coordination of messaging and better communicate to the public. Appendix B details the projects and includes the status of each.

FRMPIWG SHAREPOINT TOOLKIT

The FRMPIWG SharePoint toolkit, maintained by Pinellas County, allows the participating communities to access PPI and LMS resources, including outreach project templates. Communities can also upload completed project documentation. The toolkit addresses the needs of the participating communities to better coordinate messages and projects. Communities can view outreach messages of other communities as well as edit and upload their own content. The toolkit also provides templates for brochures, community newsletters, repetitive loss area letters and other valuable tools they can use to better communicate with residents about flood hazards and measures they can take to reduce risks. The toolkit also serves as a means to document and track the status of outreach initiatives.

Since its inception in 2020, the committee has updated the toolkit with a more modern, user-friendly interface. The toolkit has evolved beyond outreach to meet further needs of the participating communities by providing calendar notifications of pertinent outreach events and allowing the download of other documents, such as LMS documentation and the Flood Warning and Response Plan.

FLOOD RESPONSE PLAN

The committee evaluated the flood response plan and decided to restructure the plan to better align the plan with other related plans, including the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) and Public Works Emergency Response Plan. As such, the plan was updated with assistance from Pinellas County Emergency Management. The Flood Response Plan (Appendix C) is now part of the County Emergency Management Plan (CEMP). Outside of outlining and restructuring of the plan, the flood response activities and messages remain mostly unchanged. The committee started the overhaul of the Flood Response Toolkit after the hurricane season in 2022 and plan to have it finalized before the 2023 Hurricane Season. This overhaul allows for better organization and easier searching capabilities, as well as updated messaging to reflect concise actions by the municipalities and direct messaging to the public. In addition, a new 2022 Hurricane Preparedness Guide was developed by the County, in conjunction with Tampa Bay Times, to update emergency contact information, provide additional preparation guidelines for pets, and incorporate guidelines to address the COVID-19 pandemic.

This year, the hurricane exercise became real with Hurricane Ian. The Flood Response Plan was revised to reflect the lessons learned following the event. In addition, the county produced a storm-specific website that includes a storm surge flood inundation map application specific to the storm event and updates regarding the storm (<https://storm.pinellascounty.org/>). This website will be in effect for all storms and hurricanes.

5 FLOOD INSURANCE IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The committee reviewed and updated the flood insurance improvement plan. In December 2021, the County received the updated policy claims and repetitive loss information. Appendix D details the updates to the plan.

Appendix A

Key Messages

Topic 1: Know your flood hazard	Topic 2: Insure your property for your flood hazard	Topic 3: Protect people from flood hazard	Topic 4: Protect your property from flood hazard	Topic 5: Build responsibly	Topic 6: Protect natural floodplain functions	Topic 7: Hurricane preparedness	Topic 8: Pet Preparedness	Topic 9: Flood economics	Topic 10: Resiliency and Sustainability
"Find out your flood risk." Pinellas County and its municipalities offer a free flood map information service so you can find out if your property is in a high, moderate or low risk flood zone area or a floodway. You can also find out if your property is susceptible to flooding from storm surge and how deep it could get. We also provide all of the information needed to complete an elevation certificate to get your flood insurance rate. You can also see if you live near protected areas that have natural floodplain functions, like swamps or mangrove stands. These areas store flood waters or buffer wave action while providing habitat for wildlife and cleaning the flood water.	<i>Purchase flood insurance for your home, business, or rental.</i> Protect your home or business and your belongings with a flood insurance policy. Flood insurance is required for federally-backed mortgages on buildings in high-risk flood zones. Anywhere it rains it can flood, so flood insurance is recommended, even if it is not required by your lender. Most homeowners' and renters' insurance policies do not cover losses due to flooding. A new policy takes 30 days to take effect, so don't delay. Flood insurance technical assistance from flood insurance "advocates" is also available. These are professionals in the insurance field who can provide you with reliable information about your flood risk and flood insurance options.	<i>"Stay connected."</i> Tune in to local news stations or NOAA weather radio stations 162.450 or 162.550 and follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Nextdoor to stay informed and sign up for Alert Pinellas to receive text, phone and/or email notifications if flooding is expected in your area. Visit www.pinellascounty.org/alertpinellas for more information and to sign up.	<i>"Protect Your Property."</i> Consider raising your AC unit and other utilities to protect your investment from flood damage. Check and mark your fuse or breaker box to show the circuits to the floodable areas. Install sewer line check valves to prevent sewer backup flooding. Staff is available for drainage evaluations and one-on-one consultations about how to protect your property from flooding. You can schedule a consultation by calling Pinellas County's Flood Information Services at (727) 464-7700. If you live in a municipality, you may contact your city directly.	<i>"Find out what building permits you may need and hire a licensed contractor."</i> Building permits protect our residents, the community, and buildings by ensuring all proposed work complies with current codes, standards, ordinances, and construction techniques. Pinellas County requires a permit for any new building, addition, remodeling, demolition, or work in excess of \$500.00 or that would require an inspection to ensure that all construction is safely completed.	<i>"Help prevent flooding and pollution by keeping storm drains clear."</i> Keep leaves, grass clippings and other debris out of storm drains and waterways to reduce pollution that can lead to algae blooms and fish kills. When storm drains get clogged with debris they can back up with water and flood yards and homes, too. Do your part. Remember, only rain down the drain —it's the law (Ordinance #06-13). To report illegal dumping www.pinellascounty.org/reportanissue/ or call (727) 464-4425.	<i>Prepare ahead and get a plan</i> with the Ready Pinellas app, which has readiness checklists and allows you to create a plan for yourself, your family and your pets. Download the app for free on your mobile device through the Apple App Store or Google Play or visit www.pinellascounty.org/flooding/warning.htm for more information.	<i>"Make a plan for your pets."</i> Residents should assess their risks and know their home's vulnerability to storm surge, flooding and wind and locate pet friendly shelters in advance. People should develop a plan for protecting themselves, their homes and pets.	<i>"Understand what is covered by your flood insurance policy."</i> There are separate flood coverages for contents and building. Condominium association flood policies typically cover common areas and certain building elements within the unit. Find out what your homeowners and flood insurance policies cover and do not cover. Also, find out about your building and contents deductible amounts.	<i>"If you are building new, consider building stronger to withstand future storms (www.pinellascounty.org/flooding/buildsmart.htm)."</i>
<i>"Know your hurricane evacuation zone."</i> Remember, flood zones and evacuation zones are different! The committee determined that this message is very important as there has been confusion from the public about flood zones versus hurricane evacuation zones. Knowing the difference is critical during times of disaster to reduce confusion and better maintain the public's safety. Flood zones are used for assessing a property's flood insurance rates and flood risk, which can be caused by heavy rains as well as by tropical storms and hurricanes. Everyone lives in a flood zone, which may be high, moderate, or low risk. Evacuation zones are based on a property's vulnerability to storm surge from a hurricane. To know when to evacuate for hurricane surge flooding, you must KNOW YOUR EVACUATION ZONE! Find your evacuation level, routes, and shelters.	<i>"Do not sign an Assignment of Benefits contract as a condition of having your home repaired."</i> You do not need to sign an Assignment of Benefits in order to get your insurance claim processed or your home repaired. Review all contracts carefully as there can be misuse by contractors that can lead to harmful consequences.	<i>"Do not play in flood waters."</i> Floodwaters can become contaminated with bacteria, sewage and other hazardous materials that can cause serious illness. In addition, dangerous animals such as alligators and snakes as well as other unseen hazards like large openings in the ground and curbs may cause serious injury. Power line, reporting from NWS.	<i>"Clear storm drains to prevent flooding."</i> When storm drains get clogged with debris, water can back up into streets, yards, and homes. Keeping storm drains clear protects your property.	<i>"Be aware of the substantial improvements rule."</i> There are specific requirements if the cost of the improvement is equal to or exceeds 50% of the community percentage number % of the home's market value prior to the improvement. Many communities have adopted a lower threshold and/or a cumulative time period for Substantial Improvement. Check with your municipality for the specific requirement in your jurisdiction.	<i>"Use Low Impact Development (LID), such as rain barrels, bioretention systems, green roofs, pervious materials, and non-invasive vegetation on your property."</i>	<i>"Know your zone."</i> Remember flood zones and evacuation zones are different!	<i>Microchip your animal in case you get separated.</i> If your contact information changes, update it with the service that you registered with. Update your pet's vaccinations and make sure their county license is valid.	<i>"Check with your flood insurance agent to make sure your flood insurance policy has proper coverage for your risk."</i> Ensure that it is has to appropriate coverages, is rated correctly and you are receiving the correct CRS discount. Flood insurance technical assistance from flood insurance "advocates" is also available. These are professionals in the insurance field who can provide you with reliable information about your flood risk and flood insurance options.	<i>"If you are building new, consider building stronger to withstand future storms such as post, piles, or piers foundations (www.pinellascounty.org/flooding/buildsmart.htm)."</i>
	<i>"Learn more about the difference between insurance and disaster assistance."</i> More than 20% of claims are paid for properties outside of a designated special flood hazard area. Contents coverage is also available. This coverage is available whether a disaster is declared or not. Most forms of disaster assistance require a declaration from the President and often come in the form of loans that must be repaid.	<i>"Turn around, don't drown."</i> Avoid driving through areas already flooded, especially if the water is flowing fast. Do not attempt to cross flowing streams or flooded roadways.	<i>"Keep debris and trash out of the streets, streams, and ditches."</i> They obstruct flow and reduce capacity of the stormwater system to store flood waters. This can cause water to back up into streets, yards, and homes.	<i>"Build Responsibly. Higher keeps you dryer."</i>	<i>"Protect Natural Floodplain Functions."</i> Only Rain Down the Drain. It is illegal to dump anything into storm drains, waterways or waterbodies. Do not open manholes and allow water into the systems. This will overload the system and cause backups or overflows.	<i>"Prepare ahead and get a plan."</i> Make a plan for emergencies involving floods, hurricanes and other natural disasters. Plan for evacuation routes, locations for high ground, food, water, shelter, and emergency supplies. Include preparations for pets.	If your pet takes medications, keep a two-week supply on hand. Pets may get anxious during stressful events; ask your veterinarian for advice.	"Check with your flood insurance agent to make sure you are getting the right CRS premium discount."	<i>"The sea is already rising!"</i> Local tide gages show that sea levels in Pinellas County have been rising since 1950. FEMA flood maps do not show the future flooding conditions for your area, including tidal, precipitation, and storm surge. Take preventative action for your home by <u>planting native plants and using gravel</u> in place of concrete, <u>utilizing low impact development, such as zero-escaping and rain-barrels, or elevating your structure</u>. https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/HighTideFloodi ng_AnnualOutlook.html
	<i>"Your NFIP flood insurance policy is transferrable."</i> If you are buying or selling a home, the existing NFIP flood insurance policy can be transferred to the new owner(s). This provides the same discounts previously applied to the rate and allows for no lapse in coverage until the new owner(s) can find their own flood insurance agent.	<i>"Sign up for Special Needs Sheltering and Transportation."</i> Prepare ahead so that you have transportation and shelter to meet your specific circumstances.	<i>"Brake, Don't Wake!"</i> Wake from vehicles traveling on flooded roads causes more damage than the rising water alone.	<i>"Renovate Responsibly."</i> It is illegal to add plumbing or electrical or to convert the space below an elevated home into living space.	<i>"Do not remove sand from the beach or disturb dunes to fill sandbags."</i> Doing so will cause more harm to property owners. This message is very relevant to Pinellas County, which is home to some of the most popular beaches in the nation. Beaches and dunes provide a natural buffer from storm events to lessen flooding during coastal storms. In addition, removing sand from beaches or dunes may violate federal, state or local law.	<i>"Inventory, photograph or videotape your home or business."</i> Document your belongings and property to help recover losses.	If you have no other option, the County has pet-friendly shelters available for dogs and cats. Pre-registration is not required. A Pet Shelter Enrollment Form is available on the Pinellas County Animal Services website at www.bit.ly/pccasprep. Fill it in and tape it to your pet's crate. It will make registration easier once you get to the shelter. Bring a photo of you with your pet. Keep it with your important documents and on your phone.	Understand what is covered by your flood insurance policy. Most flood insurance policies, including National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) policies, do not cover Loss of Use. Loss of use coverage can help reimburse you for hotel, restaurant and other living expenses you may incur during a specified time period as a result of your home being uninhabitable. Check with your insurance agent for coverage options.	<i>"If you witness flooding in your area without rain, then you are probably experiencing king tide or sunny day flooding. Brake don't wake! Wake from vehicles traveling on flooded roads causes more damage than the rising water alone. Link to PC Webpage</i>
	<i>"Protect yourself with a flood insurance policy."</i> Property owners in Pinellas County and its municipalities should take measures to protect their investment, including purchasing flood insurance. For some homeowners, flood insurance may be required if the property is located in a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) and they have a government-backed loan. Property owners should also be aware that even though their property may not be in a SFHA, it may still be subject to flooding and that most homeowner's insurance do not cover flood. Homeowners who have flood insurance often recover quicker from a flooding event than those without flood insurance. Flood insurance is also available for renters. Flood insurance technical assistance from flood insurance "advocates" is also available. These are professionals in the insurance field who can provide you with reliable information about your flood risk and flood insurance options.	<i>"Learn when to stay or evacuate."</i> Follow state and local directives to evacuate. If given the option and if you are on high ground, the safest measure may be to shelter in place.	<i>"Remove leaves and debris from gutters and downspouts."</i>	<i>"Plan for proper drainage and use low impact development (LID)."</i> Along with physical traditional facilities, practices such as rain gardens, pervious pavers and vegetative buffers can help reduce the impact of flooding.				"Find out how much flood damage could cost you."	<i>"If you witness flooding in your area and there has not been any rain, then you probably experienced kingtide or sunny day flooding. Don't play in floodwaters.</i>
		<i>"Remember to never plug your generator directly into your home's wiring and not to operate the generator in wet conditions."</i> It is also important to not run at least 20 feet from the home. Generators emit carbon monoxide, which is a dangerous, odorless gas. Portable generators should not be run indoors or in any other enclosed space like a garage or crawlspace. You should have a CO detector on every floor if using a generator.	<i>"Secure structures, belongings, chemicals and other items before you leave."</i> This message also applies to seasonal residents so that their property is protected from flood hazards while away.	<i>"Find out what the flood hazard and required development standards are BEFORE you develop your plans."</i> FEMA and the County develop flood hazard maps, which are both used to determine the flood hazard and required development standards. Additional data may be available that show the flood hazard from larger storms and/or future conditions. This information helps to inform private and public project planning. For more information visit floodmaps.pinellascounty.org/pages/county-flood-hazard-area.				<i>Find out what your homeowners and flood insurance policies cover and do not cover.</i> Also, find out about your building and contents deductible amounts.	
			<i>"Take action to move your property or protect it from flooding."</i> Flood loss avoidance is a protective action you take to minimize flood damage and losses to your buildings and personal property before a flood occurs, and some expenses associated with protecting or moving your property may be covered by your insurance policy.	<i>"Find out what building permits are required."</i> Get required permits before you start any home repair, improvement, or construction. Pinellas County enforces specific building regulations based on the flood hazard to protect people and buildings from flooding while maintaining natural floodplain functions. Builders should contact Pinellas County to find out what permits are required before starting the project.					
			<i>"Shut off power or breakers before evacuation or leaving for an extended period of time."</i>	<i>"Be aware of the substantial improvements rule."</i> Remodeling projects that cost 49% of the community percentage here % of the value of the original structure will require you to elevate the building above the flood level. Houses substantially damaged by fire, flood or any other cause must be elevated above the regulatory flood level when they are repaired.					
				<i>"Find out what the flood hazard and required development standards are BEFORE you develop your plans."</i> The FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) and County Floodplains maps are used to determine building requirements to help protect you from flooding. Federal requirements for flood insurance are only based on the FEMA FIRM.					

Appendix B

Status of PPI Project

330 OUTREACH PROJECTS WORKSHEET

Projects Implemented Countywide			Newly Implemented Projects			Identified but Not Implemented Projects																	
Project ID	Outreach Projects	Description	CPI?	Target Audience	STK?	Countywide Reach	Unincorporated	Belleair	Belleair Beach	Clearwater	Gulfport	Indian Rocks Beach	Indian Shores	Madeira Beach	Oldsmar	Pinellas Park	Redington Beach	Redington Shores	South Pasadena	St. Pete Beach	St. Petersburg	Tarpon Springs	Treasure Island
OP#1	RLA Letter	Letter, Flood Info Brochure, and Insurance Info Sheet distributed via direct mail to residents and businesses in the Repetitive Loss Areas	Y	RLAA	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
*OP#2	*Flood Guide available at County/City Buildings	PC Departments: Building, Planning, Development Review Services, Communications, Utilities	Y	Customers of Pinellas County Services	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	N
*OP#3	*Flood Guide available at County Libraries	Made Available at 25 Library Locations throughout Pinellas County	Y	Customers of Pinellas County Libraries	Y	Y																	
*OP#4a	*Hurricane Guide 2020	*Distributed countywide *Made available at County and municipal buildings *Made available at numerous buisnesses	Y	No target audience	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y
*OP#4b	*Hurricane Guide 2020 - ESOL (Spanish)	*Distributed countywide *Made available at County and municipal buildings *Made available at numerous buisnesses	Y	Spanish-Speaking Residents	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	N
*OP#4c	*Hurricane Guide 2020 - ESOL (Vietnamese)	*Distributed countywide *Made available at County and municipal buildings *Made available at numerous buisnesses	Y	Vietnamese-Speaking Residents	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N
*OP#5a	*Hurricane Guide 2020 Available at County Libraries	Made Available at 25 Library Locations throughout Pinellas County	Y	No target audience	Y	Y																	
OP#5b	*Hurricane Guide 2020 - ESOL (Spanish) Available at County Libraries	Made Available at 25 Library Locations throughout Pinellas County	Y	Spanish-Speaking Residents	Y	Y																	
*OP#5c	*Hurricane Guide 2020 - ESOL (Vietnamese) Available at County Libraries	Made Available at 25 Library Locations throughout Pinellas County	Y	Vietnamese-Speaking Residents	Y	Y																	
OP#6	Utility Bill Insert	Information distributed in the utility bill that is distributed to Unincorporated, Beach communities from Belleair Beach south to Tierra Verde, City of Largo, Town of Kenneth City, and limited sections of Clearwater, Dunedin, Pinellas Park and St. Petersburg	Y	No target audience	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	Y
*OP#7	*Flood Map Service Training	Pinellas County Floodplain Administrator and Flood Insurance Advocate present to Real Estate professionals that work countywide about: *Flood Information-all 10 topics *Flood Insurance Details *How to use the online flood map service center Real Estate Flood Disclosure Brochures are provided	Y	Real Estate Professionals	Y	Y																	
*OP#8	*Real Estate Agents Flood Disclosure and Information Brochure (English & Spanish)	Brochure distributed to potential buyers of property countywide by real estate professionals.	Y	Buyers of Real Estate	Y	Y																	
*OP#9	*Pinellas/Pasco Realtor Organization Newsletter	Article published annually in the PRO newsletter that covers Pinellas County Flood Map Service, Real Estate Disclosure trainings, Emergency Management alert information, and technical assistance information.	Y	Real Estate Professionals	Y	Y																	
OP#10	Landscape Training	Any person or company providing landscape services must complete the Pinellas County Landscape Best Management Practices Course and display a Pinellas County vehicle decal to avoid violation of the Pinellas County Fertilizer and Landscape Maintenance Ordinance.	N	Landscapers	N	Y																	
OP#11	Commissioner / Mayor Article in Utility Bills or Mailed letters	Each year the County Commission Chair or Mayor will provide flood reminders, including for residents to review their insurance coverage and consider adding flood insurance, and promote flood insurance technical assistance in an article disseminated in Utility bills or mailed letters, and released to the press. This is frequently published in newspapers and neighborhood newsletters.	Y	No target audience	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	N
OP#12	Flood Map Service Promo Email Blast (via everbridge)	Flood Map Service Promo Email to Realtors, Insurance Agents, Lenders, and Surveyors registered in Pinellas County via Everbridge	Y	Realtors, Lenders, Insurance Agents	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N
OP#13	Storm Drain Markers	Only Rain Down Drain Storm Drain Marker program	N	No target audience	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	N
OP#14	Storm Drain Murals	Only Rain Down Drain Storm Drain Mural program	N	No target audience	N	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N
OP#15	Vehicle Wraps	Natural functions messages, such as Only Rain Down Drain are wrapped on 19 vehicles. All vehicles can be see across the county and out of the county when vehicles are used for business travel.	N	No target audience	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N
OP#16	Bus Wraps	Natural functions messages, such as Only Rain Down Drain are wrapped on 11 public transportation busses. All busses can be see across the county.	N	No target audience	Y	Y																	
OP#17	LMS and PPI Annual Update Press Release	LMS and PPI annual reports submitted to the governing body, released to the media, and made available to the public.	N	No target audience	N	Y																	
OP#18	Scheduled Social Media Posts (Facebook)	Defined Social Media posts that cover all topics	Y	No target audience	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y		Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y
OP#19	Scheduled Social Media Posts (Instagram)	Defined Social Media posts that cover all topics	Y	No target audience	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	N		N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y
OP#20	Scheduled Social Media Posts (Twitter)	Defined Social Media posts that cover all topics	Y	No target audience	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y		Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y
OP#21	E-News/E-Lert	Email blasts from the community sent to citizens who opt-in. Topics may include floodplain management, environmental news, and public safety.	N	No target audience	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y
OP#22	Newsletter(s)	Newsletter from the community distributed by multiple dissemination methods, such as email blasts, newspaper inserts, mailers, and articles in neighborhood newsletters/magazines	Y	Varies	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y
OP#23	CRS Users Group Meetings	Meetings for community officials involved in, looking to be involved in, or just interest in learning about different topics related to CRS and best practices for accomplishing activities.	Y	No target audience	N	Y																	
OP#24	Pinellas County's Speakers Bureau	Organized events in neighborhoods or offices to learn more about your flood risk, flood insurance, property protection, preparedness and safety, and natural floodplains.	Y	Varies	N	Y																	
OP#25	New Homeowner Brochure and Flyer	Brochure and flyer for new homeowners to introduce them to Pinellas County watersheds and flood risks. These are listed on the Pinellas County Website.	Y	New Homeowners	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N
OP#26	Hurricane Season Press Release	An annual press release reminding citizen of the upcoming Hurricane Season with preparation tips.	Y	No target audience	N	Y																	

330 OUTREACH PROJECTS WORKSHEET

Projects Implemented Countywide			Newly Implemented Projects				Identified but Not Implemented Projects																
Project ID	Outreach Projects	Description	CPI?	Target Audience	STK?	Countywide Reach	Unincorporated	Belleair	Belleair Beach	Clearwater	Gulfport	Indian Rocks Beach	Indian Shores	Madeira Beach	Oldsmar	Pinellas Park	Redington Beach	Redington Shores	South Pasadena	St. Pete Beach	St. Petersburg	Tarpon Springs	Treasure Island
OP#27	Parks & Recreation Educational Materials	Educational material placed in parks and recreational facilities about the watersheds and environmental aspects of the area.	N	No target audience	N	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	N
OP#28	Informational Videos	Flood related informational videos for residents and businesses disseminated by various methods	Y	No target audience	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	Y
OP#29	Homeowners Association Meetings	Meetings from Homeowners Associations	Y	Homeowner's Associations	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	N
OP#30	Tampa Bay Newspapers Full-Page Spread	Flood related reminders, including for residents to review their insurance coverage and consider adding flood insurance, and promote flood insurance technical assistance. Other flood related messages are included.	Y	No target audience	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
OP#31	Community Workshops / Meetings	Flood related informational workshops or meetings (virtual or in-person) for residents and businesses held separately from Commission or Board meetings. Some examples are Citizen's Academy, City Council Flood Education Workshops, City Boards Flood Education Workshops, etc.	Y	Varies	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y
OP#32	Only Rain Down the Drain Posted Signage	Posted Signage reminding residents and visitors Only Rain Down the Drain	N	No target audience	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	N	Y		N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N
OP#33	Letter to Real Estate Professionals	A targeted letter to real estate professionals within the municipality accompanied with the flood brochure	N	Real Estate Professionals	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
OP#34	Letter to Insurance Companies	A targeted letter to insurance companies within the municipality accompanied with the flood brochure	N	Insurance and Mortgage professionals	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
OP#35	Letter to Landscapers	A targeted letter to landscapers within the municipality accompanied with the flood brochure	N	Landscapers	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
OP#36	Social Media - Podcast	A podcast that discusses floodplain related messaging. Not Implemented Yet.	N	No target audience	N	N																	
OP#37	Storm Surge Inundation Level Signage	Signage placed at specific locations to identify storm surge inundation	N	No target audience	N	N																	
OP#38	Home Inspector Training	Training on basic floodplain regulations for buildings	Y	Home Inspectors	N	Y																	
OP#39	Insurance and Mortgage Association Training	Pinellas County Floodplain Administrator and Flood Insurance Advocate present to Insurance and Mortgage professionals that work countywide about: •Flood Information-all 10 topics •Flood Insurance Details •How to use the online flood map service center	Y	Insurance and Mortgage professionals	N	Y																	
OP#40	Veterinarian Email Blasts	Not Implemented Yet	N	Veterinarians	N	Y																	

Appendix C

Flood Response Plan

FLOOD WARNING AND RESPONSE PLAN



CEMP Volume II
Hazard Specific Plan
August 2022

APPROVAL SIGNATURES

The Flood Warning and Response Plan has been approved by Pinellas County Emergency Management (PCEM) and the Pinellas County Public Works Floodplain Administrator.



Cathie Perkins
Pinellas County Emergency Management – Director

8/22/2022
Date Approved



Lisa Foster
Pinellas County Public Works – Floodplain Administrator

8/22/2022
Date Approved

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- Town of Belleair
- Town of Belleair Shore
- Town of Indian Shores
- Town of Kenneth City
- Town of North Redington Beach
- Town of Redington Beach
- Town of Redington Shores
- Pinellas County Fire Control Districts

REVISIONS

The County Floodplain Administrator in coordination with Pinellas County Emergency Management (PCEM) and other supporting departments will review and update this plan on an annual basis or as needed due to updates or changes in processes.

This chart documents the revisions made to this plan since the last signed approved version dated June 2018.

Date	Page(s)	Change
08/22/2022	All	Updated Plan Format
08/22/2022	7-30	Updated and Reorganized Direction and Control Section
08/22/2022	30-39	Updated and Reorganized Flood Response Operations Section
08/22/2022	41	Moved EOC Organizational Structure to Appendices
08/22/2022	42-70	Moved Hazard Analysis to Appendices

APPROVAL SIGNATURES	3
DISTRIBUTION LIST:	3
REVISIONS	4
1 PURPOSE/SCOPE	7
2 DIRECTION & CONTROL	7
<i>Roles and Responsibilities</i>	<i>8</i>
2.1 PUBLIC EDUCATION AND OUTREACH	10
<i>Pinellas County Multi-Jurisdictional Program for Public Information (PPI).....</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Flood Risk and Mitigation Public Information Working Group (FRMPIWG)</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Evacuation Zone Updates</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Hurricane/All Hazards Preparedness Guide</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>Know Your Zone</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>Pinellas County Public Connection Television (PCC-TV)</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>Preparedness Events</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>Public Transportation Vehicle Signage</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>Ready Pinellas Mobile Application</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>Severe Weather Awareness Week.....</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>Storm Surge Signs.....</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>Strategic Marketing and Outreach Plan</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>Pinellas County Website.....</i>	<i>15</i>
2.2 ALERT & NOTIFICATION	16
<i>Flood Threat Recognition System (FTR).....</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>Emergency Warning Dissemination (EWD)</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>Pre-Scripted Messages</i>	<i>18</i>
2.3 WARNING AND NOTIFICATION TOOLS	20
<i>Alert Pinellas (Everbridge).....</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>Billboard Emergency Alert System (BEAS) Program</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS).....</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>iNWS Mobile Alerting.....</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>Roadway Dynamic Messaging Signs</i>	<i>21</i>
<i>Street Outreach Teams</i>	<i>21</i>
<i>Social Media</i>	<i>22</i>
<i>Warning and Notification Database (WAND)</i>	<i>23</i>

NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards (NWR).....	23
2.4 PLANNING, THREAT, AND IMPACT ANALYSIS	23
<i>Pinellas Emergency Level Interoperable Critical Analysis (PELICAN)</i>	23
<i>Flood Mapping</i>	25
<i>Hurricane Evacuation (HURREVAC)</i>	26
<i>Damage Assessment Reporting Tools</i>	27
2.5 TRAINING AND EXERCISE.....	28
3 FLOOD RESPONSE OPERATIONS (FRO).....	30
3.1 FLOODING HOTSPOTS	31
3.2 CREEK GAGE MONITORING	31
3.3 SANDBAG OPERATIONS.....	31
3.4 ASSIGNMENT OF RESOURCES	32
3.5 POST DISASTER RESPONSE AND RECOVERY PHASES.....	35
3.6 DEMOBILIZATION.....	38
APPENDICES	39
APPENDIX 1: LIST OF ACRONYMS	40
APPENDIX 2: EOC ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE	41
APPENDIX 3: HAZARD ANALYSIS.....	42
<i>Causes Of Flooding</i>	42
HISTORICAL FLOODING	49
<i>Flooding Hotspots</i>	51
<i>Repetitive Loss Areas Analysis</i>	52
DEVELOPMENT EXPOSED TO FLOODING	55
<i>Types Of Land Exposed To Flooding</i>	55
<i>Types Of Buildings Exposed To Flooding</i>	55
<i>Critical Facilities</i>	57
IMPACTS TO LIFE, HEALTH, SAFETY AND COMMUNITY	58
<i>Life Safety</i>	58
<i>Public Health</i>	60
<i>Community Infrastructure</i>	600

1 PURPOSE/SCOPE

A Flood Warning and Response Plan emphasizes timely identification of impending flood threats, dissemination of warnings to appropriate floodplain occupants, and coordination of flood response activities to reduce the threat and/or impacts to life and property. Activities in the plan focus on the Pinellas County's actions and related plans, and efforts coordinated across various jurisdictions and with Pinellas County Emergency Management (PCEM).

With sufficient warning of potential flooding, a community can take protective measures to mitigate potential damage. A flood threat recognition system integrated with an emergency response plan and a multi-level flood inundation map(s) enables emergency warning dissemination to the public and critical facilities for different types of flood events. This is the basis of flood warning and response and is part of the emergency management preparedness cycle.

This Flood Warning and Response Plan is included in *Pinellas County's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) Volume II – Hazard Specific Plans*. The CEMP establishes a framework through which Pinellas County and its municipalities prepare for, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the impacts of a wide variety of disasters. Both this plan, as well as the CEMP, make references to the County's Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS). The LMS, adopted in 2020 and annually updated, contains a detailed vulnerability assessment of Pinellas County for natural and technological hazards. The assessment identifies the hazards that the County could face and the probabilities of occurrence.

Event specific situations may require a modification to these operations. Agencies supporting this plan should be familiar with the operations, take all necessary training as identified in the job descriptions in the Appendices and participate in any exercises to test the plan, as able.

Each entity identified herein will utilize this plan as the basis for development and maintenance of subordinate plans, response policies, and implementing procedures. The existence of this plan does not relieve response organizations or local jurisdictions from the duty of developing their own Standard Operating Procedures.

2 DIRECTION & CONTROL

Implementation of the Flood Warning and Response Plan will fall under Pinellas County Public Works (PCPW) or the local jurisdiction for small or localized events and countywide or major events will be coordinated through the Pinellas County Emergency Operations Center (EOC). PCPW, PCEM, and the local jurisdictions have established communications to convey and communicate threats and impacts of events.

Roles and Responsibilities

Pinellas County Public Works (PCPW)

- Lead agency for this plan
- Designated Pinellas County Floodplain Administrator position within agency
- Responsible for monitoring gages, clearing and notifying partners of concerns regarding flooding hot spots, and incidents or areas that are prone to flooding
- Assist with the development of Geographic Information Systems data and mapping
- Leads the Pinellas County Flood Risk and Mitigation Public Information Working Group
- Establishes areas for Substantial Damage determination inspections to be performed by PCBDRS; provides SD report to FEMA
- High water mark data collection

Pinellas County Emergency Management (PCEM)

- Support agency for this plan.
- Overall coordination of warning and response activities outlined in this plan.
- Develop and implement hazards awareness and preparedness programs in coordination with partner agencies.
- Participate in the Pinellas County Flood Risk and Mitigation Public Information Working Group.

Pinellas County Building and Development Review Services (PCBDRS)

- Conduct damage assessments in coordination with PCDAS and PCPAO by providing personnel, vehicles, and communications equipment to County Damage Assessment Teams¹.
- Substantial Damage (SD) Determinations – Building inspectors will place SD door hangers and assess certain structures located in the FEMA SFHA and/or within Pinellas County determined floodplains which may have received substantial damage. SD inspection areas are established by PCPW. PCBDRS provides SD reports to PCPW to submit to FEMA.
- Permitting - Establish an emergency permit center to make feasible the emergency repair permits process to residents and business owners. This process will help ensure that all work performed during this period is performed by licensed contractors, is performed correctly, and properly inspected.
- Code compliance - Plans reviewers will ensure code compliance, including but not limited to Substantial Improvement (SI) via the permit review and inspection processes. Code enforcement will inspect impacted areas to help ensure all repair work is properly permitted.

^{1,2,3} CEMP Appendix 1: Roles and Responsibilities

Pinellas County Communications (PCC)

- Assists with the development and dissemination of public information and alerts in multiple languages and on various platforms including social media
- Participate in the Pinellas County Flood Risk and Mitigation Public Information Working Group

Pinellas County Department of Administrative Services (PCDAS)

- Lead the EOC Damage Assessment Unit responsible for coordinating damage assessment operations across the county².

Pinellas County Property Appraiser (PCPAO)

- Conduct damage assessment operations in coordination with PCDAS and PCBDRS³.

Pinellas County Sustainability and Resiliency

- Assist with the analysis and planning for sea level rise and climate change related flood issues
- Assist with integration and identification of mitigation projects into the County Capital Improvement Planning
- Lead for sustainability and resilience issues

Pinellas County Utilities

- Inspect PCU facilities and service areas for damage, downed trees, and power availability
- Coordinate Duke Energy requests and communication for power restoration and mitigation throughout the system and stations
- Monitoring, tracking and management of all things related to the quality of drinking water and wastewater including required reporting and tracking of overflow (SSO) events

Municipalities

- Support agencies for this plan
- Coordinate efforts for dissemination of public information and warning
- Assists with response and recovery efforts
- Participate in the Pinellas County Flood Risk and Mitigation Public Information Working Group

Fire Control Districts

- Support agencies for this plan
- Coordinate efforts for dissemination of warning

- Assists with response and recovery efforts
- Participate in the Pinellas County Flood Risk and Mitigation Public Information Working Group

2.1 Public Education and Outreach

The County has several outreach projects on warning and safety precautions.

Pinellas County Multi-Jurisdictional Program for Public Information (PPI)

The purpose of the PPI is to improve communication with residents, and to provide information about flood hazards, flood safety, flood insurance, and ways to protect property and natural floodplain functions to those who can benefit from it. Although this information is being effectively shared throughout the County, this program will better coordinate messages and materials, standardize the information being shared, and make it more accessible to County staff as well as the other local governments and agencies within the County⁴. The 2022 *Pinellas County Multi-Jurisdictional PPI*, which is Appendix H of the LMS, outlines the current public information efforts.

Flood Risk and Mitigation Public Information Working Group (FRMPIWG)

The efforts of the PPI can affect and be affected by other related activities such as development of the Flood Warning and Response Plan, Flood Insurance Improvement Plan, and the Floodplain Management Plan, which is a component of the larger Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS). The Pinellas County Flood Risk and Mitigation Public Information Working Group represents a unique opportunity to coordinate and improve consistency in messaging countywide and avoid duplication of efforts among the various initiatives to reduce flood risk and damage. The working group will cover the basic CRS PPI requirements, but they will also be evaluating Flood Insurance Coverage, Floodplain Management, Flood Warning and Response, and providing input to the multi-jurisdictional LMS⁵.

Evacuation Zone Updates

In 2022 PCEM released an updated version of our evacuation zones. This was based off of an updated National Hurricane Center's (NHC) Sea Lake Overland Surge from Hurricanes (SLOSH) Model, these are updated by the National Hurricane Center every 4-5 years. This update also utilized updated lidar data and more refined data points that have a smaller special distance and provide a more refined inundation footprint.

92,954 people had a change to their evacuation zone, this was about 47,747 households about 9.2% of our overall households. 6.6% had an increase in risk, meaning they went from

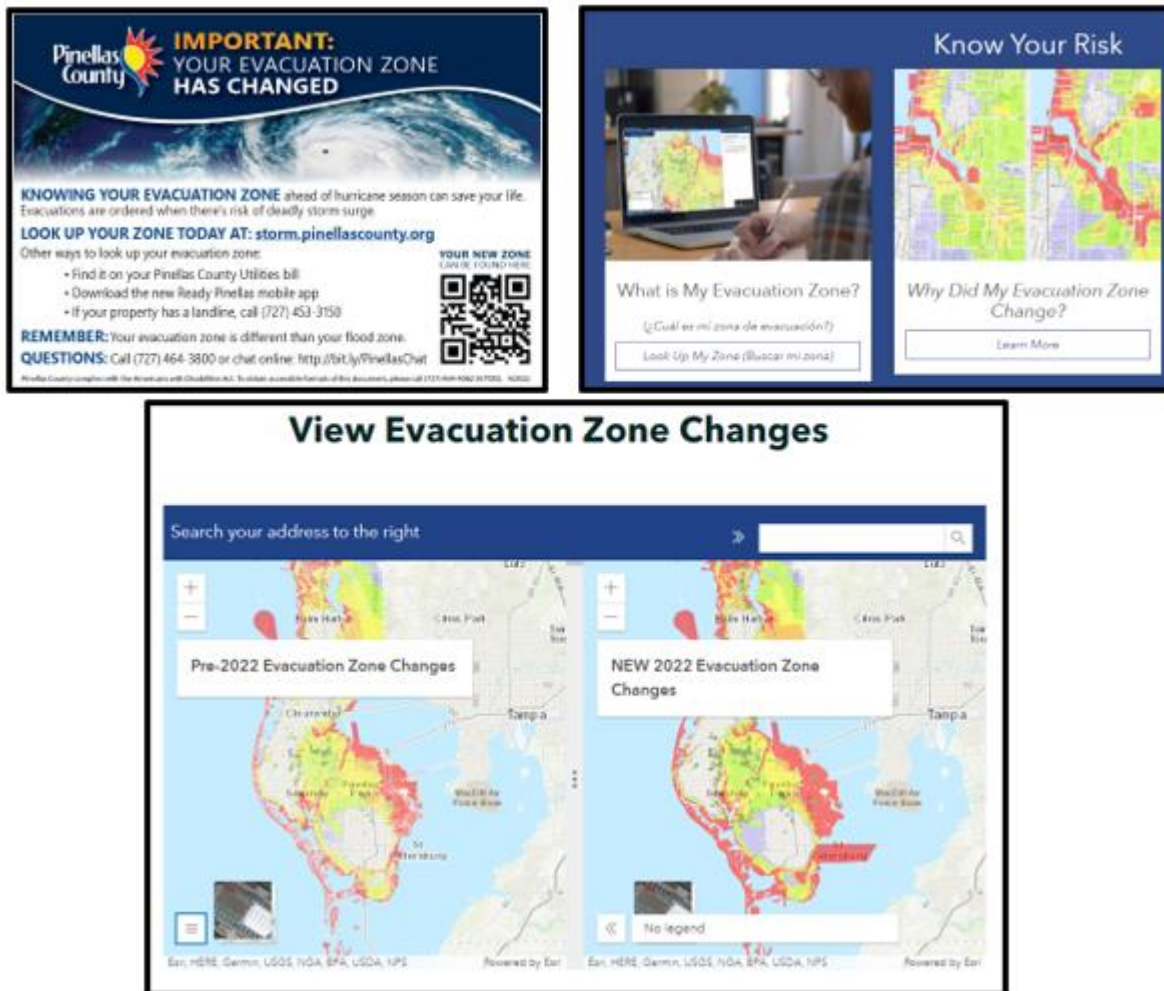
⁴ 2022 Pinellas County Multi-Jurisdictional PPI Introduction

⁵ 2022 Pinellas County Multi-Jurisdictional PPI Planning Committee

a higher evac level to a lower one and 2.6% decreased in evacuation level risk. PCEM mailed out 58,956 postcards to the address and owners of the address, if different, and embarked on a very active media campaign.

Pinellas County set up a weblink so people could either look up their new zone and see a side by side comparison and also provided a story map to explain why the evacuation zone changed. The website had 21,000 hits in the month that followed as a result of this outreach.

Figure 1: 2022 Outreach for Evacuation Zone Changes



Hurricane/All Hazards Preparedness Guide

Pinellas County develops a Hurricane/All Hazards Preparedness Guide annually. The guide contains information on severe weather and man-made hazards, and contains planning guidelines for homeowners, renters, businesses, special needs residents, and residents with pets and/or children.

Printed copies of these guides are distributed throughout the community, including through municipalities, government offices, libraries, and other locations. Guides are created in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese and large print is available upon request.

Additional information about the Hurricane/All Hazards Preparedness Guide, including the current versions of the guides, can be found at Pinellas County's website: <http://pinellascounty.org/emergency/allhazardguide.htm>.

Know Your Zone

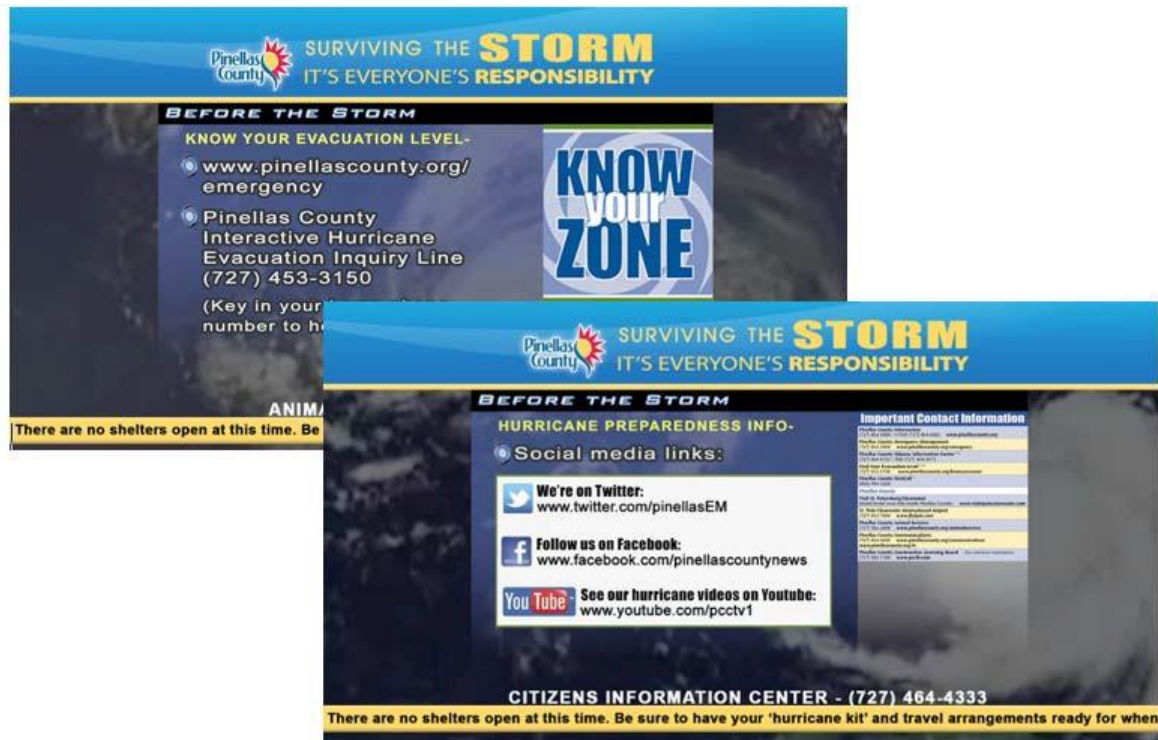
Residents are encouraged to enter their address into the Know Your Zone application to get information on their evacuation zone, as well as the closest public shelter, special needs shelter, and hotel accommodations.

Pinellas County Public Connection Television (PCC-TV)

Pinellas County, through PCC, runs a public access channel for airing both scheduled and live programming. BCC meetings are televised live and repeated during the week with closed-captioning available for the hearing impaired. When not broadcasting live presentations/meetings, informative presentations and programming is scheduled (including emergency preparedness and planning tips). During an emergency, regular programming on PCC-TV is cancelled and programming is devoted to broadcasting emergency information to county residents.

Additional information about PCC-TV, including live streaming video, can be found at Pinellas County's website: <http://www.pinellascounty.org/tv/>.

Figure 2: PCC-TV with scrolling alerts



Preparedness Events

PCEM and partners conduct preparedness events to include educational materials and, in some cases, some hurricane kit supplies, to the community. Events in partnership with other community agencies, such as senior centers or community feeding partners help reach at risk populations.

Public Transportation Vehicle Signage

PCEM, PCC, and PSTA partnered together to display preparedness messaging inside PSTA buses and other public transportation vehicles. These signs display information in English and Spanish to residents, such as how to find their evacuation zone, registering for Alert Pinellas, and registering for special needs evacuation assistance.

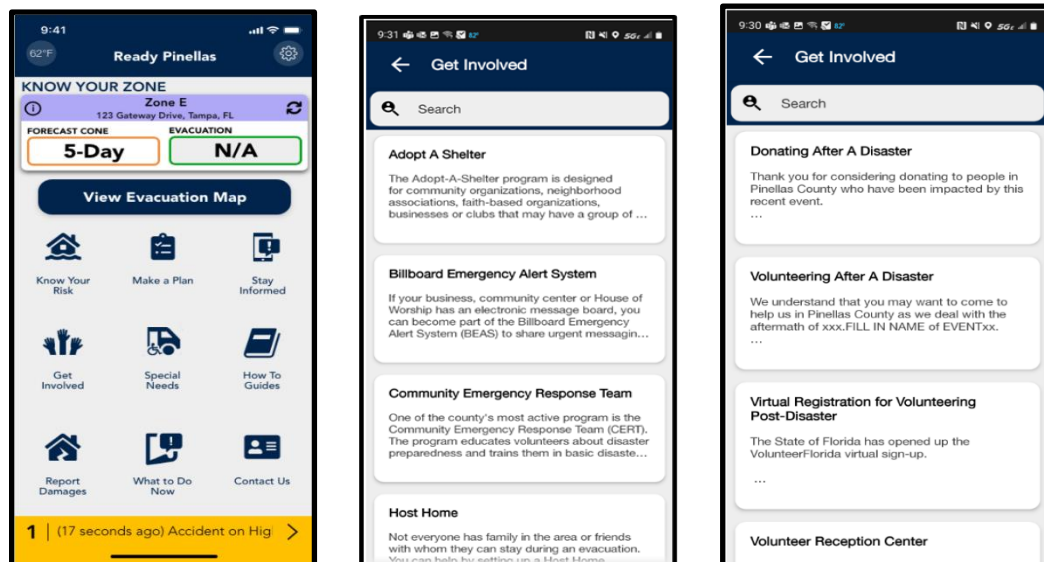
Ready Pinellas Mobile Application

Pinellas County maintains a mobile application, *Ready Pinellas*, designed to help residents prepare themselves and their families before a storm and as a storm approaches. The application connects residents to features such as readiness checklists, planning resources such as *Know Your Zone* and *Alert Pinellas*, and track storms as they approach. This application allows for real time notifications, has emergency preparedness information and tips and will feature blue and grey sky information.

Ready Pinellas will geolocate the users position to let them know what evacuation zone their current location, or a location they type in, is in and will update to let people know if that area

is under an evacuation order. Real time notifications are tied into the National Weather Service as well as Alert Pinellas to push information to people's phones. A preparedness checklist along with photos for inventory of items can also be developed in the application. This app is currently in English and is being translated into Spanish

Figure 3: Ready Pinellas Mobile Application



Additional information about *Ready Pinellas* can be found at Pinellas County's website: <http://www.pinellascounty.org/readypinellas/>

Severe Weather Awareness Week

Severe weather awareness week occurs in February and highlights a variety of topics. The NWS provides educational materials that are promoted by PCEM and other partners. PCEM conducts an interactive tornado drill with partners and the community every year.

Additional information on the annual Severe Weather Awareness Week, including information about the statewide tornado drill partnership, can be found on FDEM's website: <https://www.floridadisaster.org/dem/directors-office/media/swaw/>.

Storm Surge Signs

Pinellas County, in partnership with Pinellas County School Board and municipalities, has numerous signs depicting the potential height of storm surge from a major hurricane at various locations throughout the county. The signs provide residents a visual depiction of how high storm surge could reach in the community and reminding them to know their evacuation zone by going to the County's website.

Strategic Marketing and Outreach Plan

PCEM maintains a Strategic Marketing and Outreach Plan that is updated annually to approach outreach with the goals of engaging and empowering whole community partners, addressing at-risk populations and promoting resilient communities through innovative uses

of traditional communications tools and developing technologies. This plan outlines the strategies that will be implemented in the calendar year for marketing and outreach.

Pinellas County Website

Pinellas County maintains a website to provide an array of information to residents. The website allows residents to look up evacuation zones, evacuation routes, provides disaster planning tips, and updates on emergency situations.

Information and updates to the website can be found at: <http://www.pinellascounty.org/>.

Figure 4: Pinellas County Storm Risk Tools <https://storm.pinellascounty.org/>

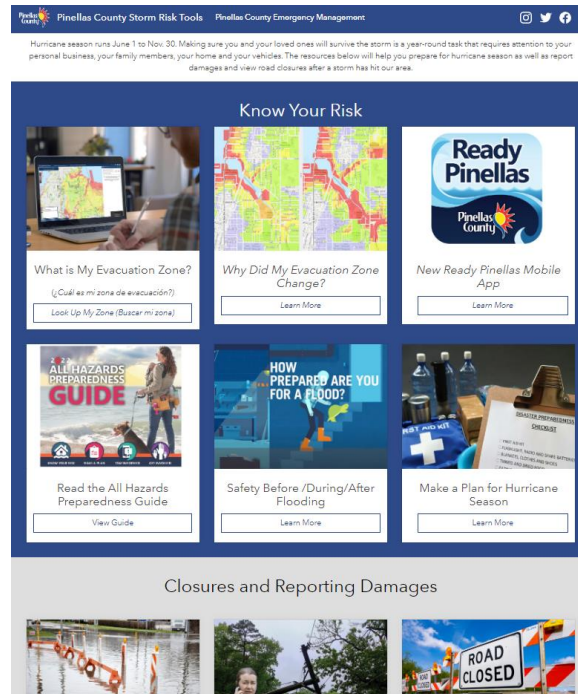
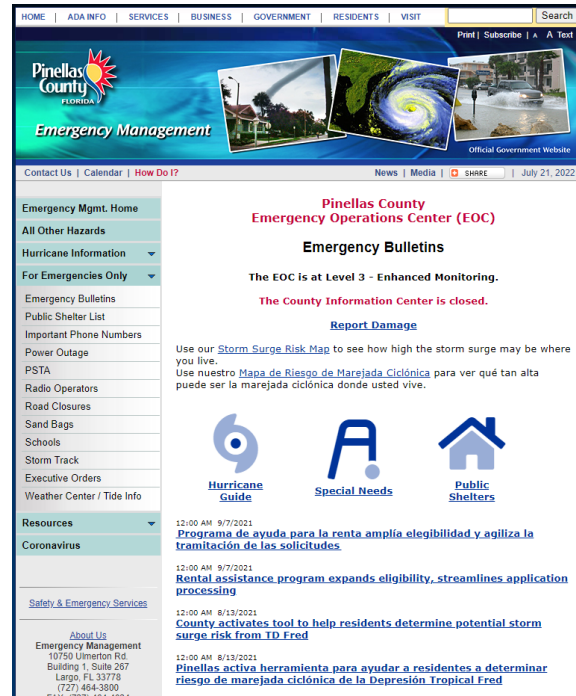


Figure 5: PCEM Emergency Bulletin page www.pinellascounty.org/emergency/bulletin.htm



2.2 Alert & Notification

PCPW Floodplain Administrator monitors for tidal impacts of flooding and gauges of critical waterways. PCEM and the Floodplain Administrator work in conjunction when a potential flood threat is received and coordinate response and notification. Pinellas County utilizes a variety of platforms to convey threats and impacts to the community. PCEM maintains a *Warning and Notification Standard Operating Guide (SOG)* along with specific job aids for the implementation of warning systems. PCC maintains the *Emergency Support Function #14 Public Information Office SOG* documenting the procedures and flow of information.

Flood Threat Recognition System (FTR)

PCEM implements a FTR through participation with the NWS alert system, a CRS Level 3 Automated flood warning system, as its primary means of notification of impending flood. Features of this automated flood warning system include:

- Capable of receiving flood warnings 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- Notifications are for flooding throughout the entire county, including riverine and coastal flooding.
- Alerts received through weather alert radio system, as well as email and text alerts sent to workstations and mobile devices.
- Provides forecast information.

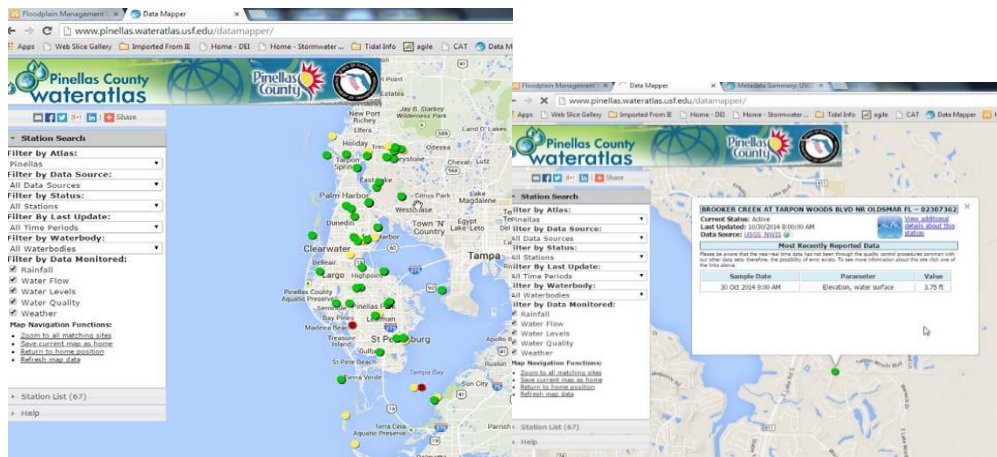
Pinellas County also has flood inundation data and maps for the entire county (floodmaps.pinellascounty.org and Section 2.4). Additionally, stream flow, stage and rainfall gages are monitored as a secondary means of forecasting flooding (*Figure 6*). These gages are the basis for a flood threat recognition system that matches gage readings to flooding potential based on modeling results. PCPW has conducted watershed management studies that cover most of the County. These management plans include detailed stormwater models that identify areas at risk for flooding. These models were used to identify a series of flooding scenarios based on gage elevations and rainfall amount. These gages cover the major waterbodies, including:

- Allen's Creek
- Alligator Creek
- Brooker Creek
- Clam Bayou
- Cross Bayou
- Curlew Creek
- Lake Tarpon
- Long Branch
- McKay Bay
- McKay Creek
- Roosevelt Canal
- Sawgrass Lake
- Seminole Lake

When a rainfall event happens, PCPW staff reviews the real-time gage elevations. For example, the gages on the County's Water Atlas system can automatically notify staff when the water level reaches a critical elevation. The activities and information are coordinated between PCEM and PCPW. When there is an impending storm, these gages are monitored and cross referenced with known areas of risks. Staff can determine which areas are at risk because they keep records about what gage elevations will trigger a flooding event (*Figure 6*). Standard operating procedures for monitoring the gages and what activities to implement at certain gage elevations are documented in the *PCPW Emergency Response Plan*.

The gages are maintained by several agencies, including PCPW, United States Geological Survey (USGS), Southwest Florida Water Management District, Port Authority and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Figure 6: Pinellas County Gages



Emergency Warning Dissemination (EWD)

During an emergency, Pinellas County officials need to provide the public with life-saving information quickly. Pinellas County has a procedure to disseminate flood information to the entire county via an array of warning and notification tools that allows them to communicate with internal and core community partner agencies, as well as the general public through a self-subscription option and a reverse-911 capability⁶.

Pre-Scripted Messages

Once the flood threat recognition system alerts to which areas will be flooded and when, warnings are issued to the affected populations. PCEM in coordination with PCPW and PCC issues pre-scripted messages as defined in the *Flood Warning and Response Toolkit* to reduce the time gap between when warnings are issued, and actions take place. The messages are conveyed at the appropriate times before, during and after the storm. The warning messages state when flooding is predicted to occur, its expected severity, and appropriate response actions (e.g., evacuation routes, safe shelters, protective actions).

The pre-scripted messages are disseminated through various warning and notification tools. These messages are also communicated to partner agencies to help disseminate the information to the public. *Figures 7 and 8* describes some example pre-scripted messages.

⁶ Pinellas County CEMP Section 5.7 and PCEM Warning and Notification SOG

Figure 7: Example EOC Pre-Scripted Messages

Topic	Timing	FRP Message	Outcome
1 Know your flood hazard	After	[Name of roads or areas] is still experiencing flooding conditions from yesterday's storm. Stay tuned or visit website for up to date flood hazard info.	Fewer stranded people and/or pets vehicles
1 Know your flood hazard	After	Updates will continue to be posted on the Pinellas County website, and on social media using the hashtag #PinellasWx.	Informed residents will take appropriate actions
1 Know your flood hazard	After	Follow reentry orders and avoid flooded areas.	Reduced emergency response calls and injuries
3 Protect people from the hazard	After	The Citizen Information Center is open and residents can call (727) 464-4333 to report issues.	County will know where response efforts are needed
3 Protect people from the hazard	After	Pinellas County officials are urging residents to avoid driving through high water.	Fewer stranded people and/or pets vehicles
3 Protect people from the hazard	After	[Emergency shelters remain opened at [locations] for residents whose homes were flooded during the storm.]	Fewer displaced people
3 Protect people from the hazard	After	Take extra care in the prevention of mosquitoes breeding in standing water and remember the 3 Ds: Drain water when possible; Dress in light colors and cover all parts of the body; Defend with DEET, Picaridin or Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus.	Reduced mosquitoes and resulting disease
3 Protect people from the hazard	After	Stay out of standing water or structures until authorities advise it is safe.	Fewer injuries
4 Protect your property from the hazard	After	Pinellas County emergency crews are being dispatched to areas affected by the heavy rain event that occurred [time].	Informed residents will take appropriate actions
4 Protect your property from the hazard	After	If your home or business has flooded, remove wet contents promptly to prevent mold. Wet carpeting, furniture, bedding and other items holding moisture can develop mold within 24 to 48 hours. Clean and disinfect everything that got wet. Mud left from floodwater can contain sewage and chemicals. Do not discard damaged carpet and contents until after the	Faster recovery and increased accuracy of flood insurance claims payments

Figure 8: Flood Response Pre-Scripted Messages

Before	During	After	All		Billboard Emergency Alert System (BEAS)	Intelligent Transportation System (ITS)	Press Release	
Citizen Information Center (CIC) Pinellas County Emergency Management <i>[Emergency Management Coordinator]</i> The Citizen Information Center (CIC) would activate for this incident and risk level. See CIC SOG for additional information and activation procedure.	Alert Pinellas - All Call/Text Pinellas County Emergency Management <i>[Emergency Management Coordinator]</i> ALERT PINELLAS: Dangerous flooding conditions are expected in coastal areas. Coastal flooding of [flooding height specifics] is expected along coastal areas of Pinellas County [timeframe]. Tune in to local media for flood watches and warnings. Prepare your property for potential flooding. For information about how to prepare visit www.pinellascounty.org/flooding	Alert Pinellas - All Call Email Pinellas County Emergency Management <i>[Emergency Management Coordinator]</i> ALERT PINELLAS: Dangerous flooding conditions are expected in coastal areas. Coastal flooding of [flooding height specifics] is expected along coastal areas of Pinellas County [timeframe]. Tune in to local media for flood watches and warnings. Prepare your property for potential flooding. For information about how to prepare visit www.pinellascounty.org/flooding	Alert Pinellas - Opt In Text Pinellas County Emergency Management <i>[Emergency Management Coordinator]</i> ALERT PINELLAS: Prepare for potential flooding along coastal areas of Pinellas County. Avoid driving through flooded areas. BRAKE, DON'T WAVE! Vals from vehicles traveling on flooded roads causes more property damage than the rising water alone.	Alert Pinellas - Opt In Email Pinellas County Emergency Management <i>[Emergency Management Coordinator]</i> ALERT PINELLAS: Prepare for potential flooding along coastal areas of Pinellas County. Avoid driving through flooded areas. BRAKE, DON'T WAVE! Vals from vehicles traveling on flooded roads causes more property damage than the rising water alone.	Billboard Emergency Alert System (BEAS) Pinellas County Emergency Management <i>[Public Education and Outreach Coordinator]</i> FLOODING EXPECTED TODAY	Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Pinellas County Public Works - Traffic <i>[Traffic Operations Center]</i> FLOODING EXPECTED TODAY	Press Release Pinellas County Marketing & Communications <i>[Public Information Officer]</i> Dangerous flooding conditions are expected in coastal areas. Coastal flooding of [flooding height specifics] is expected along coastal areas of Pinellas County [timeframe].	Pinellas Coos <i>[Pub]</i>
		Stay tuned for weather updates through weather alert radios, local media outlets, the county website and county social media accounts.	Turn Around, Don't Drive. Only 6 inches of fast-flowing water can sweep you off your feet and one foot can carry away cars.	Turn Around, Don't Drive. Only 6 inches of fast-flowing water can sweep you off your feet and one foot can carry away cars.	DO NOT DRIVE THROUGH FLOODED ROADWAYS	DO NOT DRIVE THROUGH FLOODED ROADWAYS	The Citizen Information Center is open and residents can call (727) 464-4333 to report issues or for more information.	
		Review disaster plans for your family, business and property. Get your survival kit and important papers ready. Purchase any items you will need to complete your survival kit now to avoid long lines and limited supplies.	Stay tuned for weather updates through weather alert radios, local media outlets, the county website and county social media accounts.	Stay tuned for weather updates through weather alert radios, local media outlets, the county website and county social media accounts.			Stay connected and prepare ahead.	
		Coastal and barrier island residents are advised to prepare for potential localized flooding. Storm tides are expected to be _____ feet above normal forecast levels, with _____ foot breaking waves on the coast.	Review disaster plans for your family, business and property. Get your survival kit and important papers ready. Purchase any items you will need to complete your survival kit now to avoid long lines and limited supplies.	Review disaster plans for your family, business and property. Get your survival kit and important papers ready. Purchase any items you will need to complete your survival kit now to avoid long lines and limited supplies.			Follow local media outlets or tune in to NOAA weather radio stations 162.450 or 162.550 and follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Nextdoor to stay informed and sign up for Alert Pinellas to receive text, phone and/or email notifications if flooding is expected in your area. Visit www.pinellascounty.org/alertpinellas for more information and to sign up.	
		Coastal and barrier island residents are advised to prepare for potential localized flooding. Storm tides are expected to be _____ feet above normal forecast levels, with _____ foot breaking waves on the coast.	Coastal and barrier island residents are advised to prepare for potential localized flooding. Storm tides are expected to be _____ feet above normal forecast levels, with _____ foot breaking waves on the coast.	Coastal and barrier island residents are advised to prepare for potential localized flooding. Storm tides are expected to be _____ feet above normal forecast levels, with _____ foot breaking waves on the coast.			Prepare your property for potential flooding. For information about how to prepare visit www.pinellascounty.org/flooding	
							Take photos or video and inventory of your property.	

2.3 Warning and Notification Tools

Alert Pinellas (Everbridge)

The County utilizes the commercial notification system 'Everbridge' to deliver tests at the beginning of each month to core partner agencies, municipal EM Coordinators, critical facilities and citizens. The municipalities, partner agencies and critical facilities primarily rely on text messages and email notifications. The general public can be communicated with via email, text messages, social media and reverse 911. The system is also capable of sending geo-targeted alert notifications to send messages to a specific geographic area.

Billboard Emergency Alert System (BEAS) Program

The BEAS program is a voluntary public-private partnership between PCEM and privately and publicly owned electronic billboards. The BEAS program is designed to enhance the County's existing emergency alert systems in order to display emergency information such as severe weather alerts, evacuation information, and other critical information necessary to protect the lives and property of citizens, businesses, and visitors.

Additional information about the BEAS program can be found at Pinellas County's website: <http://www.pinellascounty.org/emergency/beas/>.

Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS)

IPAWS was created by FEMA in response Executive Order 13407, allowing for federal, state, and local governments to issue critical public alerts and warnings in their jurisdictions. Common examples of messages sent through IPAWS are America's Missing: Broadcasting Emergency Response (commonly known as AMBER) Alerts sent by FDLE and tornado warnings sent by NWS. Public alerting systems accessed through IPAWS includes:

- All-Hazards Emergency Message Collection System
- Emergency Alert System
- Internet Services
- Wireless Emergency Alerts

Pinellas County maintains access to IPAWS through a MOA with FEMA. Under this agreement, PCEM must demonstrate the ability to compose and send a message through IPAWS by conducting a monthly proficiency test. Pinellas County utilizes EMnet® and Everbridge® to access and send messages through IPAWS.

Additional information about IPAWS and the associated public alert systems can be found at FEMA's website: <https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/practitioners/integrated-public-alert-warning-system>.

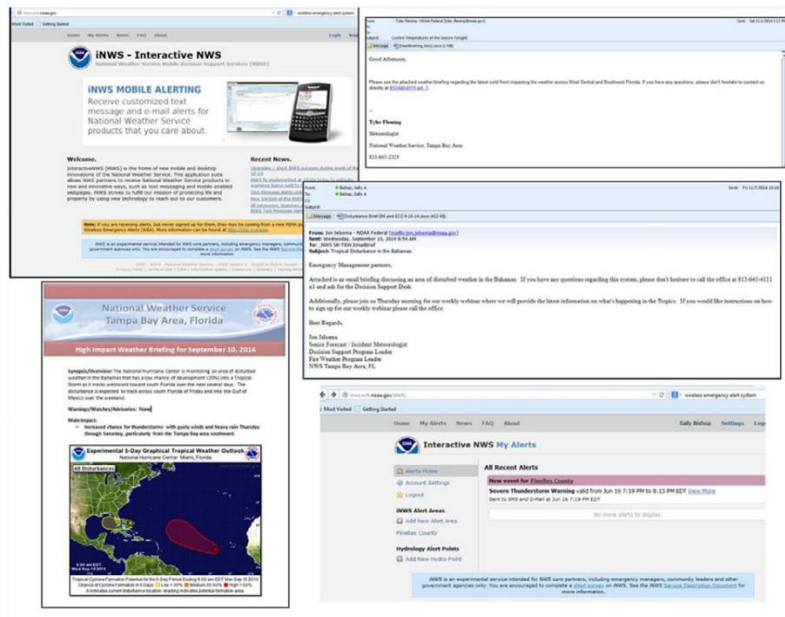
iNWS Mobile Alerting

iNWS is a service intended for emergency managers, community leaders, and other government agencies, providing text and email notifications about NWS products (such as

watches, warnings, and advisories) issued for their jurisdiction, allowing these stakeholders to take and encourage protective actions.

Additional information about iNWS, including how partner agencies can register, can be found on the NWS's website: <https://inws.ncep.noaa.gov/>.

Figure 9: iNWS Alerts



Roadway Dynamic Messaging Signs

Pinellas County Public Works (PCPW) utilizes a series of Dynamic Messaging Signs (DMS) as part of the County's larger Advanced Transportation Management System and Intelligent Transportation System ATMS/ITS). These DMS have the ability to display messages on digital signage across major roadways, both during non-emergency and emergency situations.

Additional information about the PCPW ATMS/ITS DMS can be found at Pinellas County's website: <http://www.pinellascounty.org/publicworks/its.htm>.

Street Outreach Teams

Street outreach programs for homeless individuals maintain frequent contact with unsheltered individuals during hurricane season to ensure they are aware of the status of any impending storms, can locate pick-up locations for transportation in the event of an evacuation, and can access special needs disaster shelters or pet-friendly disaster shelters, as appropriate. In addition to providing information through street outreach, this information is shared at meal sites, day programs, and similar service locations.

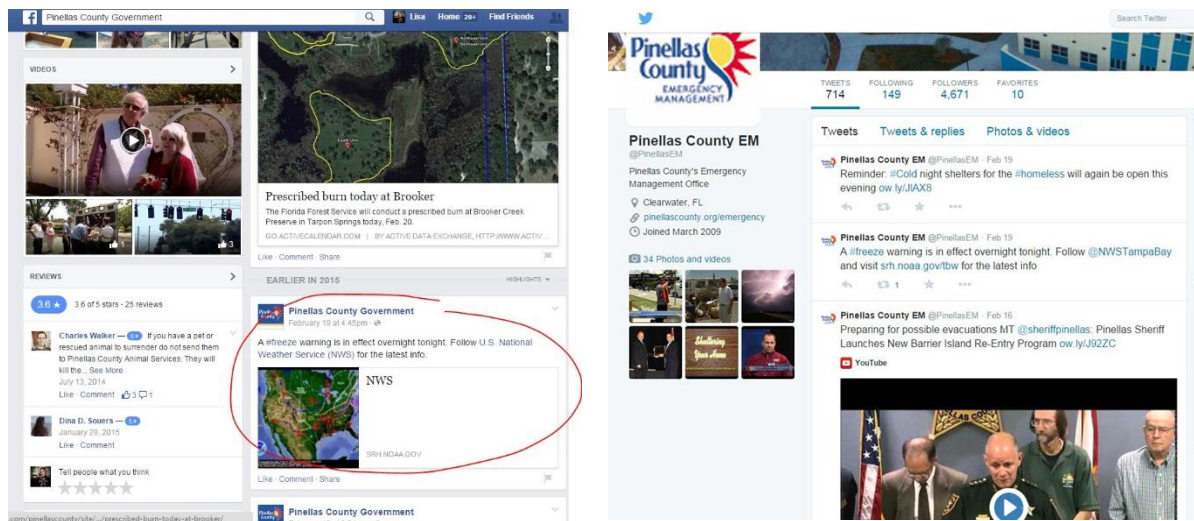
Social Media

Pinellas County and its departments operate a variety of social media accounts to share information and awareness campaign messaging to residents⁷. This includes accounts on the following social media platforms:

- LinkedIn
- NextDoor
- Flickr
- YouTube
- Instagram
- Facebook (Figure 10)
- Twitter (**Error! Reference source not found.10**)

Additional information on Pinellas County's social media sites, including links to the currently active accounts, can be found at: <http://www.pinellascounty.org/social-networking.htm>.

Figure 10: Pinellas County Facebook News and Twitter Feeds



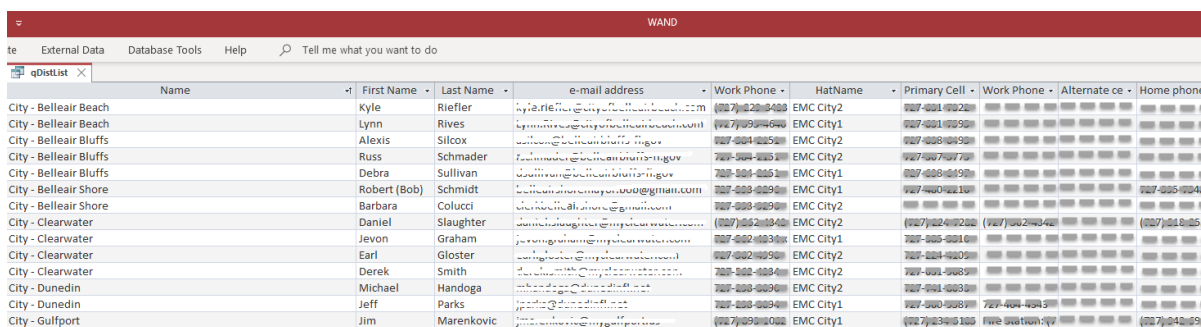
⁷ Managed in accordance with Pinellas County Administrative Directive Number 3.2.

Warning and Notification Database (WAND)

PCEM maintains a database of contacts used for emergency and day to day communications with internal and external agencies. These contacts cover various critical sectors such as municipalities and special fire districts, County departments, EOC staff, hospitals, utilities/infrastructure personnel, community groups, volunteer groups, among others. The WAND can be utilized to quickly identify contact information for warning and notification purposes.

The WAND is updated by PCEM at least annually, with additional maintenance occurring based upon monthly testing and as requested/needed. An example of a report from the WAND is shown in *Figure 11*.

Figure 11: WAND Database Report Example



Name	First Name	Last Name	e-mail address	Work Phone	HatName	Primary Cell	Work Phone	Alternate ce	Home phone
City - Belleair Beach	Kyle	Rieffler	kyle.rieffler@cityofbelleair.com	(813) 712-2640	EMC City2	(813) 712-2640			
City - Belleair Beach	Lynn	Rives	lynn.rives@cityofbelleair.com	(813) 712-2640	EMC City1	(813) 712-2640			
City - Belleair Bluffs	Alexis	Silcox	alexis.silcox@cityofbelleair.com	(813) 712-2640	EMC City2	(813) 712-2640			
City - Belleair Bluffs	Russ	Schmader	russ.schmader@cityofbelleair.com	(813) 712-2640	EMC City2	(813) 712-2640			
City - Belleair Bluffs	Debra	Sullivan	debra.sullivan@cityofbelleair.com	(813) 712-2640	EMC City1	(813) 712-2640			
City - Belleair Shore	Robert (Bob)	Schmidt	robert.schmidt@cityofbelleair.com	(813) 712-2640	EMC City1	(813) 712-2640			
City - Belleair Shore	Barbara	Colucci	barbara.colucci@cityofbelleair.com	(813) 712-2640	EMC City2	(813) 712-2640			
City - Clearwater	Daniel	Slaughter	daniel.slaughter@cityofclearwater.com	(813) 712-2640	EMC City2	(813) 712-2640			
City - Clearwater	Jevon	Graham	jevon.graham@cityofclearwater.com	(813) 712-2640	EMC City1	(813) 712-2640			
City - Clearwater	Earl	Gloster	earl.gloster@cityofclearwater.com	(813) 712-2640	EMC City2	(813) 712-2640			
City - Clearwater	Derek	Smith	derek.smith@cityofclearwater.com	(813) 712-2640	EMC City2	(813) 712-2640			
City - Dunedin	Michael	Handoga	michael.handoga@cityofdunedin.com	(813) 712-2640	EMC City2	(813) 712-2640			
City - Dunedin	Jeff	Parks	jeff.parks@cityofdunedin.com	(813) 712-2640	EMC City1	(813) 712-2640			
City - Gulfport	Jim	Marenkovic	jim.marenkovic@cityofgulfport.com	(813) 712-2640	EMC City1	(813) 712-2640			

NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards (NWR)

NWR is a nationwide network of radio stations broadcasting continuous weather information directly from the nearest NWS office. NWR broadcasts official Weather Service warnings, watches, forecasts and other hazard information 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. PCEM has initiated various projects to provide NWR capable radios to partner agencies, critical facilities and at-risk populations. Most recently, in 2022, PCEM initiated a project to improve critical warning notifications to at risk populations by identifying funding and distributing 1,700 NWR capable radios to identifies at risk communities.

2.4 Planning, Threat, and Impact Analysis

To accurately determine protective measure and response activities, Pinellas County maintains datasets and maps and integrates real time information including vulnerable populations, critical facilities and at-risk areas for various events that may cause flooding.

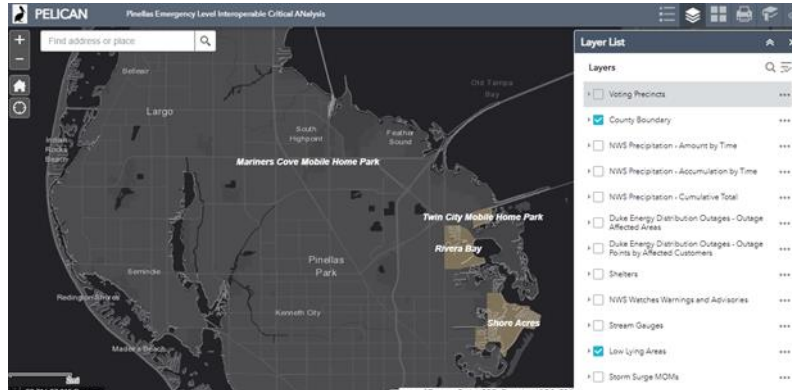
These data sets and tools can be utilized to convey threats to the community as well as provide for a way to collect data on impacts.

Pinellas Emergency Level Interoperable Critical Analysis (PELICAN)

PELICAN is an internally created GIS analysis tool managed by PCBTS, allowing PCEM to make informed data-driven decisions from a variety of datasets. These datasets can include live data (such as weather radar, traffic reports, and weather station reports) and preplanned

static data (such as shelter locations, evacuation zones, and CIKR locations) overlaid to assist in the emergency management planning and decision making process.

Figure 12: PELICAN Low Lying Areas layer



Critical Facilities Database

PCEM maintains a list of critical facilities that is updated annually to include:

- Airports
- Correctional Facilities
- Courthouses
- County and municipal buildings
- Emergency operations sites
- Faith based sites
- Fire Stations
- Law Enforcement/Police stations
- Public and Private Sector Critical Infrastructure (Structures and Systems)

Healthcare Facilities Database

Pinellas County is required to review and approve emergency plans for health care facilities designated by their licensing as: Hospitals, Nursing Homes, Assisted Living Facilities, Adult Day Care Centers, Ambulatory Surgical Centers and Intermediate Care Facilities for the Developmentally Disabled. PCEM maintains a database of the residential healthcare facilities that have their healthcare facility CEMPs that it reviews. This database can be utilized to communicate with them for incidents that may impact their operations.

Figure 13: Health Care Access Database Query Report

Health Care Facilities sorted by Evacuation Level											
Facility Name	Transport	Evac Level	Address	Street	City	Phone	Cell Phone	Fax	Disaster Phone/Note	Contact	Title
Sunset Harbor Assisted Living	Own/Facility	A	522	Doric Ct.	Tarpon Springs	940-4781	437-8666	888-688-1401		Byron Richards	Exec Director
Westminster Shores	Own/ Fac vehicles	A	125	56th Ave., So.	St. Petersburg	867-2131	417-9366	mshaw@wservices.org	Fax #: 866-8454	Michael Shaw	Executive Director
Wild Flower Inn	Own/POV	A	639	Michigan Blvd., #1500	Dunedin	736-0793	404-754-	avahal@carewellglobal.com		Alka Vahal	Administrator
Palms of Pasadena Hospital	EM/EMS	A	1501	Pasadena Ave. So.	St. Petersburg	381-1000	424-7980	chuck.giorgio@hcahealthcare.com	Fax: 341-7790	Chuck Giorgio	Director of Plant
Sunrise Community Inc. - St. Petersburg Cluster	Own/Facility/Vans	A	1101	102nd Ave. North	St. Petersburg	576-0492	453-9136	kmason@sunrisegroup.org	(fax) 576-0970	Kym Mason	Director
Health & Rehabilitation Center At Dolphins View	EM/EMS/WC Transport	A	1820	Shore Drive So.	South Pasadena	384-9300	616-402-	683-9378	616-502-1360	Zachary Strunk	NHA
Gulfport Rehabilitation Center	Own/Fac	A	1430	Pasadena Ave. So.	St. Petersburg	344-8525	482-7055	855-887-9751		Sean O'Malley	Administrator
Shore Acres Rehabilitation & Health Center	EM/EMS	A	4500	Indianapolis St. N.E.	St. Petersburg	527-5801	813-770-	522-4178	209-4600	Suresh V. Pai	Administrator

Special Needs Database

PCEM maintains a registry for people who may need assistance with transportation or have medical conditions and may require specialized shelters or services for evacuation or be on life sustaining medical equipment that requires uninterrupted power supply. PCEM and the partner agencies prepare evacuation and sheltering planning assumptions on the current registry numbers.

Flood Mapping

PCEM maintains a catalog of GIS data layers to assess the risk of storm surge in relation to tropical cyclones and riverine and urban flooding from rainfall events. The storm surge data is from the NHC SLOSH model. This data can be run as a composite of all directions of storms by category, (*Figure 14*) which is used to create Evacuation Zones or by direction with various speeds to provide an operational analysis for risk for particular storms. Riverine and urban flood inundation maps with flood elevations are developed through the Watershed Management Plan (WMP) program (*Figure 15*). Inundation risk can be evaluated by the depth of water above ground level (AGL) or flood elevation associated with a particular storm surge or precipitation forecast and overlaid with other factors data layers to provide real time situational awareness.

Floodplain Review

Find address or place

Legend

- Stormwater - Major Basins
- McKay Creek Floodplain (09/05/2014)
 - McKayCreek_modelresults
 - OWLS_FLOOD
 - CPM_Basin
- Floodplain
 - SW Water Plan
 - FLOODPLAIN_25_YR
 - FLOODPLAIN_100_YR
 - FLOODPLAIN_100_YR
- FEMA - FIRMS - Effective (As of 03/21/2022)
 - 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard
 - 1% Regulatory Flood Hazard
 - 5% Annual Chance Flood Hazard
- Other Features
 - Basin Boundaries
 - Base Flood Elevations (BFE)
 - Limit of Moderate Wave Action (LIMWA)

OBJECTID	CPM, NODE, NAME	ELEVATION_100YR_SDMF_VAL	ELEVATION_500YR_SDMF_VAL	ELEVATION_1000YR_SDMF_VAL	ELEVATION_100YR_SDMF_VAL	ELEVATION_500YR_SDMF_VAL	ELEVATION_1000YR_SDMF_VAL
467	162100	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000
468	162100	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000
469	162100	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000
470	162100	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000
471	162100	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000
472	162100	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000
473	162100	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000
474	162100	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000
475	162100	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000
476	162100	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000
477	162100	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000
478	162100	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000
479	162100	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000
480	162100	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000
481	162100	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000
482	162100	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000
483	162100	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000
484	162100	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000
485	162100	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000
486	162100	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000
487	162100	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000
488	162100	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000
489	162100	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000
490	162100	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000
491	162100	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000
492	162100	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000
493	162100	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000	4999.000000

HURREVAC is a storm tracking and decision support software designed for governmental emergency managers to make evacuation and other critical tropical cyclone related

decisions. HURREVAC is administered by FEMA, the Army Corps of Engineers (ACE), and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Within HURREVAC, storm surge modeling with the SLOSH model can be used to estimate storm surge heights based on variables such as a hurricane's size, forward speed, and trajectory. By running the SLOSH model thousands of times with hypothetical hurricane scenarios, the Maximum Envelopes of Water (MEOWs) and the Maximum of MEOWs (MOMs) are produced. MEOWs and MOMs help determine storm surge vulnerability, forming the basis for evacuation zone development.

Additional information about the SLOSH model can be found on the NHC website: <https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/surge/slosh.php>, and additional information about HURREVAC can be found on the software's website: <https://www.hurrevac.com/>.

Damage Assessment Reporting Tools

ArcGIS Collector Application

As the result of a disaster or other incident, the ArcGIS Collector application can be used by damage assessment personnel to record information from the field, such as location, severity, and photographs of damages from a mobile device (*Figure 17*).

Figure 16: Pictures of damage assessment personnel conducting residential house-by-house assessments the morning of Wednesday, July 7. Photos courtesy of PCC.





Storm Impressions

Fire Districts utilize the Storm Impressions application on their mobile data terminals or through the internet to assess, collect, and communicate impact information to PCSES, PCEM, and other entities across the County to provide critical situational awareness about the scope and scale of damages. Storm Impressions displays a map of assessed locations, the level of damage, and additional notes regarding the impacts.

Citizen Residential Damage Reporting Tool

After a disaster or other incident, Pinellas County may enable the Citizen Residential Damage Reporting tool to allow citizens to report residential damages (*Figure 18*).

Figure 17: Citizen Residential Damage Reporting

Citizen Residential Damage Reporting

Citizen form for self residential damages.

REBID: Individual assistance is not available at this time. Finley County is working diligently to document all residential damages to use to apply for potential state and federal emergency assistance. We need your help to report damages to ensure all of the County damages are accounted for to increase our chances of receiving state or federal assistance.

First Name

Entering name is optional.

Last Name

Entering name is optional.

Damage Location:¹

Please provide location by looking up an address or by using the interactive map.

2.5 Training and Exercise

Maintaining and implementing the training and exercise program is a continual effort, consisting of the identification, planning, and implementation to enhance readiness and assess operational knowledge and procedures. PCEM is responsible for the coordination of the local training and exercise program, including coordination with partner agencies, development of an Integrated Preparedness Plan (IPP). The IPP is developed through a strategic planning process with partners to address gaps, increase capabilities and practice operational response together. As part of the exercise and real-life incident process, PCEM

maintains a master Improvement Plan to help track items to inform the IPP and the PCEM Strategic Plan.

The County's warning dissemination systems are tested monthly. Pinellas County also participates in the Annual State Exercise that as a focus on the County's Operational Communications and Emergency Public Information and Warning confirming the ability of Pinellas County to issue emergency public warnings through established warning systems. The community has exercised these activities during actual events several times in recent years. Figure 18 and Figure 19 describe a situation report (Sitrep) from the exercise and a sample report showing the distribution of warning to the community during the exercise using one of the automated notification systems.

Figure 18: Exercise Hurricane Amaranth Exercise Sitrep

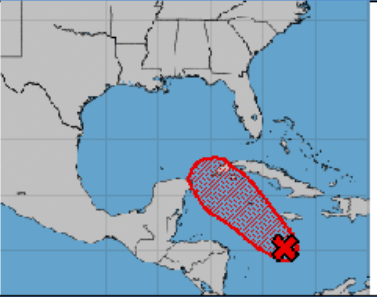
EXERCISE EXERCISE EXERCISE					
		Pinellas County Emergency Operations Center SITUATION REPORT #1		CONTACT INFORMATION Main: (727) 464-5550 FAX: (727) 464-4024 EMA@pinellascounty.org	
1. INCIDENT NAME Potential Tropical Cyclone		2. DATE 05/01/2022		3. TIME 11:30 AM	
4. EOC ACTIVATION LEVEL Level 3 – Enhanced Monitoring		5. LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY DECLARED? No		6. PREPARED BY EOC Planning Section	
CURRENT SITUATION			GRAPHIC		
The National Hurricane Center is currently monitoring an area of disturbed weather in the Caribbean Sea for potential tropical cyclone development. The forecast for this area of disturbed weather indicates it will move over the western Caribbean Sea and then into the southern Gulf of Mexico over the next few days. The system may then move northeastward towards the Florida peninsula by Friday (05/06). The area of disturbed weather is forecast to become a Tropical Depression within the next 24 hours, and then a Tropical Storm shortly thereafter. PCEM recommends everyone review and complete preparedness actions.					
IMPACTS					
It is too early to determine what, if any, impacts Pinellas County could receive. PCEM is monitoring forecasts and is coordinating with the National Weather Service.					
COUNTY ACTIVITIES					
- The EOC is activated to a Level 3 – Enhanced Monitoring. Use normal office numbers for PCEM staff. - PCEM is monitoring the situation and coordinating with partners, including with the State on protective actions and unmet needs. - Pinellas County Communications is coordinating preparedness messaging. - The next Situation Report for this system will be issued tomorrow morning (05/02).					
RECOMMENDED ACTIONS					
- Share weather forecasts and protective measure actions with your partners and communities. - Review emergency plans and supplies. - Monitor the weather reports on a regular basis: a. https://www.hurricanes.gov/ b. http://weather.gov/tampabay - Monitor Pinellas County Social Media Sites: a. https://www.facebook.com/PinellasCountyNews/ b. https://mobile.twitter.com/pinellasem c. http://www.pinellascounty.org/social-networking.htm - Public Information Resources a. https://www.ready.gov/severe-weather-toolkit b. http://pinellascounty.org/emergency/PDF/All_Hazard_Guide.pdf					
This Advisory is provided for informational purposes only. The user assumes the entire risk related to the use, or misuse, of its associated data.					
7. Approved By: Cathie Perkins		8. Title: Emergency Management Director		9. Date/Time: 05/01/2022 11:30 AM	
EXERCISE EXERCISE EXERCISE					
NOT A REAL SCENARIO					

Figure 19: Example of Exercise Sitrep Distribution Report



3 FLOOD RESPONSE OPERATIONS (FRO)

Different threats and incidents will generate different response actions, including the type and level of coordination needed between agencies, including the convening of Multiagency Coordination (MAC) groups, EOC activation, or other response measures to ensure the public health, safety, and welfare of residents. Pinellas County's framework for response and operational coordination can be found in the *Pinellas County CEMP – Section 5 Response*. Appendix 2 contains the EOC organizational structure.

PCEM has identified levels of activation for the EOC that transition from coordination at the department level to countywide coordination. Agencies are activated depending upon the level of support needed from them and in conjunction with any protective, response or recovery efforts. Additional information on PCEM's activities and the expected or recommended actions from County departments and partner agencies at each EOC activation level can be found in *Pinellas County CEMP – Table 3*.

Level 4 – Normal Operations

Monitor local and regional incidents and evaluate potential threats.

Level 3 – Enhanced Monitoring

An incident requires PCEM to act or coordinate efforts. Notification to County Administration is made of incidents that require enhanced monitoring.

Level 2 – Partial Activation

An incident requires limited coordination/support at the EOC.

Level 1 – Full Activation

An incident requires high levels of coordination/support at the EOC.

The PCEM Director or designee may implement EOC Level 4 – Normal Operations and EOC Level 3 – Enhanced Monitoring on behalf of the department. EOC Level 2 – Partial Activation and EOC Level 1 – Full Activation are determined in conjunction with the Executive Policy Group (EPG).

3.1 Flooding Hotspots

PCPW maintains a list of flooding “Hot Spots” that are reviewed in conjunction with updating the PCPW ERP⁸. Before an impending storm, PCPW staff will inspect and perform maintenance as necessary on systems in historically flood prone areas to make sure that the systems will have the maximum conveyance capacity for floodwaters.

3.2 Creek Gage Monitoring

All creek gages are to be monitored during heavy rains and storm conditions to ensure that any flooding potential is minimized by PCPW staff prior to and during an event. Gage data for Brooker Creek and Alligator Creek can be viewed through the USGS National Water Information Website. Ensure that public information is disseminated through all available sources before and during a storm event. PW FEOC staff will monitor gages throughout any storm⁹.

Figure 20: Gage Elevations Correlated to Flood Inundation Maps



3.3 Sandbag Operations

PCPW in coordination with the Pinellas County EOC EPG will determine the need to provide sandbags to unincorporated citizens prior to the arrival of a weather event forecasting flooding issues¹⁰. Municipalities may choose to provide sandbags to residents.

⁸ 2022 PCPW ERP

⁹ 2022 PCPW ERP Annex L: SOP for Creek Gage Monitoring

¹⁰ 2022 PCPW ERP Annex M: SOP for Sandbag Operations

Figure 21: Pinellas County Sandbag Operations During Tropical Storm Elsa



3.4 Assignment Of Resources

In addition, each department maintains their standard operating procedures that outline the personnel, sequence, and timeline of activities to carry out during times of emergency. Specific tasks are assigned to departments to handle response and recovery activities. Furthermore, a department maintains the list of assigned personnel for specific teams or tasks (*Figure 21*). The Logistics Section of the organization is responsible for receiving, inventorying, tracking, maintaining, distributing, and recovering communications equipment. In addition, each department maintains a listing of all available county equipment and staff identified for response and recovery operations, such as debris removal and disposal missions. Each equipment is assigned an asset number. *Figures 22 and 23* illustrate examples of equipment inventories maintained by PCPW for emergency situations. County staff maintain accurate records of time, personnel, materials and equipment for all expenditures relating to hurricane- caused damages.

Figure 22: Assigned Position and Phase Assignment Excerpt from Public Works Emergency Response Plan

PLANNING & DESIGN SECTION

Section manager: Ivan Fernandez, P.E. *Updated 6-3-14*

Full Name	Employee Number	Phase - Assignment	Unit	Position Title
Ablakovic, Nedima	23984	2	Engineering and Technical Support Division	Admin Support Supv
Bay, Guillermo Q	29610	2-Evaluation	Utility Relocations & Rehabilitation	Pub Wks Eng Supv
Bellhorn, Paul A	27064	2-Evaluation	Civil & Structural Systems	Sr Eng
Bryant, Yvonne D	21254	2-Evaluation	Production Unit	Pub Wks Eng Spec 1
Carpenter, John A	30690	2-Evaluation	Civil & Structural Systems	Professional Eng.
Celeste, Merry	34268	2	Engineering and Technical Support Division	Cont Svcs. Supervisor 1
Clark, Timothy H	27742	1 - EOC	Civil & Structural Systems	Pub Wks Eng Spec 1
Cook, Becky	100884	1 - Plant	Water & Sewer Systems (closest plant - WE Dunn)	Sr. Engineer
Cruz, Milton	24948	2	Utility Relocations & Rehabilitation	Eng Tech
Cutrone, Gregory	100465	1-Task Team	Civil & Structural Systems	Sr. Eng
Dawson, Stuart J	31700	3	Water & Sewer Systems	Sr Envir Spec
ETS Division Director		1 - EOC	Engineering and Technical Support Division	
Farrugia, Lucille A	90684	1 - ERB	Engineering and Technical Support Division	Sr Office Spec
Fernandez, Ivan J	4514	1-FEOC	Design Services Section	Section Manager
French, John	100434	1 - PLANT	Water & Sewer Systems (closest plant - SCB)	Dept Admin Mgr
Gilkerson, Sarah	20748	1 - EOC	Utility Relocations & Rehabilitation	Eng Spec 1
Glaser, Daniel	100877	2-Evaluation	Civil & Structural Systems	Sr. Engineer
Grubbs, R W	2538	2-Evaluation	Utility Relocations & Rehabilitation	Pub Wks Eng Supv
Hall, Brent D	28012	1 - EOC	Production Support	Sr Dept Admin Mgr
Hanks, Constance M	31646	2	Engineering and Technical Support Division	Admin Secretary
Hornik, Antonio	27122	1-Task Team	Civil & Structural Systems	Division Eng

Figure 23: Example Vehicle Inventory

ASSIGNED		ASSIGNED VEHICLE/EQUIPMENT	STAGING AREA	ASSET NUMBER
MODEL	NAME			
CONSTRUCTION PW COST CENTER (LT xxxxxx EC)				
2014 Ford Exp 4 x 4	Bixler, Mike	22211 US 19, Bldg 16	Will Keep	119227
98 F 150 4 x 4	Demyan, Mark	22211 US 19, Bldg 16	Will Keep	87258
2014 Ford Exp 4 x 4	DeMoss, Joe	22211 US 19, Bldg 16	Will Keep	119229
2014 Ford Exp 4 x 4	Gildea, Richard	22211 US 19, Bldg 16	Will Keep	119238
2014 Ford Exp 4 x 4	Hunt, Joe	22211 US 19, Bldg 16	Will Keep	119244
09 Colorado UP 4 x 4	Johnson, Kevin	22211 US 19, Bldg 16	Will Keep	112857
2014 Ford Exp 4 x 4	Lafita, Angel	22211 US 19, Bldg 16	Will Keep	119242
2014 Ford Exp 4 x 4	Lanier, William	Keystone Rd Field Office	Will Keep	119240
2014 Ford Exp 4 x 4	Linton, John	22211 US 19, Bldg 16	Will Keep	119234
2014 Ford Exp 4 x 4	Mowry, Brian	22211 US 19, Bldg 16	Will Keep	119241
05 Silverado PU	Parrish, Joseph	22211 US 19, Bldg 16	Will Keep	431470

Figure 24: Example Emergency Kit Inventory

Inventory No.	Item Description	Purchase Price (each)	Quantity	Location
Tote 1				
Bag for each Task Team 1 person per team	Rope		1	2 nd Floor Closet
	Sunscreen		1	2 nd Floor Closet
	Protective Goggles		1	2 nd Floor Closet
	Flat blade screwdriver		1	2 nd Floor Closet
	Leather Gloves		1	2 nd Floor Closet
	Hand Sanitizer		1	2 nd Floor Closet
	Dust Mask		1	2 nd Floor Closet
	Rubber boots		1	2 nd Floor Closet
	4 ft. carpenter's level		1	2 nd Floor Closet
	Measuring tape – 25 ft		1	2 nd Floor Closet
	Range pole/probe		1	2 nd Floor Closet
	Tool belt w/ tool pouch		1	2 nd Floor Closet
	Plumb bob		1	2 nd Floor Closet
	Flashlight		1	2 nd Floor Closet
	Chipping Hammer w/ leather holder		1	2 nd Floor Closet
	Spray paint – Orange		1	2 nd Floor Closet
	Hip waders		1	2 nd Floor Closet
Tote 2				
	Rope		1	2 nd Floor Closet
	Sunscreen		1	2 nd Floor Closet
	Protective Goggles		1	2 nd Floor Closet
	Flat blade screwdriver		1	2 nd Floor Closet
	Leather Gloves		1	2 nd Floor Closet

3.5 Post Disaster Response And Recovery Phases

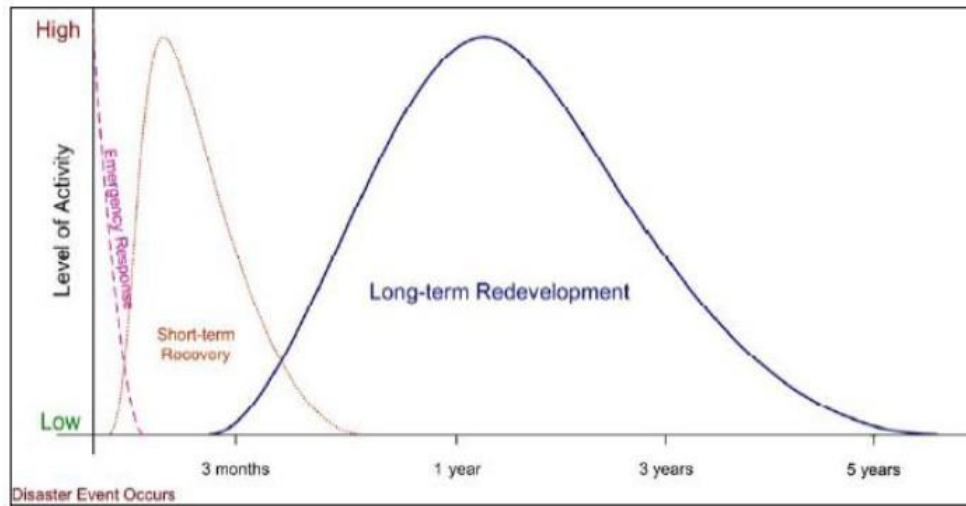
The *Pinellas County Post-Disaster Redevelopment Plan* (PDRP) identifies policies, operational strategies, and roles and responsibilities for implementation that will guide decisions that affect long-term recovery and redevelopment of the community after a disaster. The plan emphasizes seizing opportunities for hazard mitigation and community improvement consistent with the goals of local comprehensive plans. Recovery topics addressed in the plan include business resumption and economic redevelopment, housing repair and reconstruction, infrastructure restoration and mitigation, short-term recovery actions that affect long-term redevelopment, sustainable land use, environmental restoration, and financial considerations as well as other long-term recovery issues identified by the community.

The purpose of the plan is to provide Pinellas County and other local governments with a countywide reference for guiding action and decision-making during the difficult disaster recovery period, as well as detailing actions that can be taken before a disaster strikes to speed the recovery process and make the community more disaster resilient. It addresses disaster recovery and redevelopment issues with long-term implications. It does not address immediate response and emergency operations as those are already covered by the CEMP.

The PDRP is an action-oriented plan outlining, where applicable and appropriate, a countywide implementation approach. Several Steering Groups representing county, municipal, non-profit and private stakeholders developed Action Plans for different subject areas that can be implemented, as needed.

The PDRP assumes three overlapping periods of recovery; the Immediate Emergency Period, the Short Term Restoration Period, and the Long Term Reconstruction Period (*Figure 24*). The length of time of the various post-disaster phases will vary with each disaster. Response activities are contained within the Emergency Support Functions of the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan and include immediate actions to save lives, protect property, meet basic human needs, and begin to restore water, sewer, and other essential services. During the Response period, a determination of whether the PDRP should be activated will be the only implementation activity. Short-term Recovery period encompasses such activities as damage assessments, public information, transition from shelters to temporary housing, utility restoration, and debris clearance. There are three major components to the Long-term Redevelopment period: reconstruction, holistic long-term recovery, and community enhancement.

Figure 25 Potential Timeline for a Major Disaster Scenario



Short-term recovery activities are those activities that have to take place following a disaster in order for citizens to return to their homes. They are typically initiated in the County EOC while in emergency response mode. Short-term recovery activities include such functions as: implementing a curfew; conducting impact assessments; re-establishing the critical infrastructure necessary for community reconstruction; re-establishing critical services that meet the physical and safety needs of the community (e.g., water, food, ice, medicine and medical care, emergency access, and continuity of government operations), and coordinating re-entry procedures.

During this phase, the PDRP Construction, Permitting and Mitigation Work Group will provide recommendations to the Steering Group on the permitting of temporary housing, emergency repairs, repair and restoration of buildings in unincorporated Pinellas County at the beginning of the short-term recovery phase. The Group will also address issues regarding disaster permitting, temporary moratoria, temporary emergency repairs, contractor licensing, contractor fraud, adequate construction materials and available contractors and skilled construction workers, code enforcement, blight and abandoned homes, mitigation during rebuild and repair, and funding assistance and insurance problems.

Pinellas County has also developed a Countywide Disaster Housing Plan ordinance that allows for temporary flexibility of land use regulations and zoning codes in the aftermath of a disaster resulting in a declared housing emergency.

Long-term recovery involves those activities that are taken to return the community to the conditions that existed before the disaster or emergency occurred, preferably while taking advantage of opportunities to mitigate against the impacts of future disasters. Long-term recovery activities can last for many years following a disaster. They include activities such as: redevelopment; environmental preservation and restoration; rebuilding; construction; repairs; and restoration. Economic recovery and business assistance are some of the most

important long-term recovery activities that must take place for a community to fully recover from a disaster.

During this phase there is tremendous pressure to build back quickly and restore or replace what was damaged or destroyed. The best practice for post-disaster redevelopment is to restrict rebuilding in hazardous locations and require mitigation where vulnerable redevelopment cannot be precluded.

Through the PDRP process, key issues such as how the community will address build back policies and non-conforming uses and structures were addressed. Disasters may provide some opportunity to propel the vision developed for the county in the Local Comprehensive Plan, Land Development Regulations (LDRs), and Economic Redevelopment Plans. This includes opportunities to implement mitigation measures to enhance protection of both community properties and private properties.

Following a disaster there is tremendous pressure to build back quickly as well as to balance the needs of survivors. As such, the County prepared an emergency ordinance for a temporary moratorium in heavily damaged areas to allow sufficient time for review of reconstruction permits yet expediting minor or moderate repairs. The PDRP strategies centered on permit requirements and mitigation measures during redevelopment are detailed in the Land Use, Housing and Mitigation Action Plan.

Pinellas County also takes actions that support property protection measures that could be carried out during response and recovery phases. These activities include educating the public about home property protection measures and mitigation activities to prevent or reduce damage from flood. Media blasts can be issued to the news venues, social media, and other outlets to inform people about protecting themselves and their property. Protection measures that can be taken to protect a property include:

- Inspect and clear gutters frequently
- Get a permit and hire a licensed contractor.
- Use flood-resistant materials and techniques.
- Raise switches, sockets, circuit breakers, and wiring.
- Mark the fuse or breaker box to show the circuits to areas vulnerable to flooding
- Elevate equipment such as hot water heaters and A/C units as much as possible.
- Elevate the entire structure above flood levels.
- If building new or elevating the existing structure, consider building stronger to withstand future storms.
- Inspect sanitary sewer lateral and install a sewer line check valve to prevent sewer backup flooding.
- Buy flood insurance and understand what is covered.

In the case of older structures that are significantly damaged, Pinellas County's ordinance requires these structures to be rebuilt to the current and more restrictive codes to prevent future losses. PCBDRS conducts substantial damage inspections after a major storm. During these inspections, staff distributes informational door hangers to the affected areas to advise residents what they can do and what resources are available to them.

After the storm, PCPW will visit areas that have flooded and record highwater marks. This information will be used by PCPW to evaluate potential best management practices to reduce the flooding. Protection measures that the County develops may include adding storage for flood attenuation, low impact development, new stormwater infrastructure, retrofits, and other measures. All these activities help to prevent property losses.

3.6 Demobilization

As conditions in the community evolve an assessment by the local jurisdiction or Pinellas County EOC will be conducted to determine when and how disaster support can be demobilized. Following minor to moderate incidents, demobilization may be as simple as the local jurisdiction or EOC Director downgrading the activation level and releasing representatives. However, larger, or catastrophic disasters may include significant assets working outside the physical confines of the EOC, warranting a fully developed incident demobilization plan developed by the EOC Planning Section and approved by the EOC Director.

3.7 Close Out and After Action

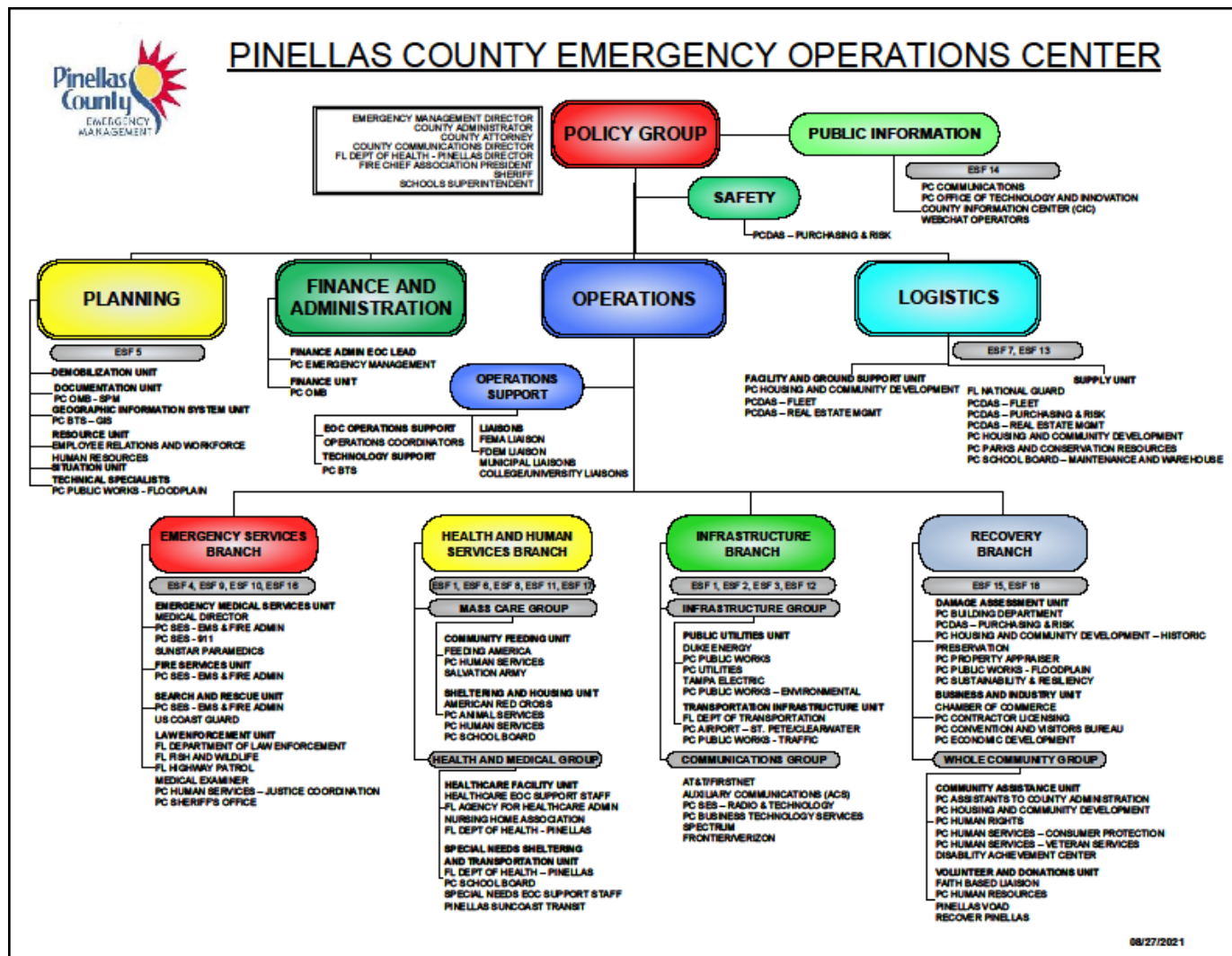
All documentation and records pertaining to the incident will be collected, retained per County protocols and in accordance with federally declared disasters, as applicable. A summation of events will be developed to record actions and After Action or Hot Wash meetings will be held to document any areas that need improvement and subsequent meeting to address any corrective measures may be held. All updates and changes identified during the After Action meetings will be incorporated into a After Action Report and will be shared with all applicable agencies including the PCPW Floodplain Administrator for incorporation into applicable plans.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: List of Acronyms

CEMP	Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan
CFP	Critical Facilities Planning
COOP	Continuity of Operations
EAS	Emergency Alert System
EMS	Emergency Medical Services
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
ESF	Emergency Support Function
EWD	Emergency Warning Dissemination
FDEM	Florida Division of Emergency Management
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FRO	Flood Response Operations
FTR	Flood Threat Recognition System
GIS	Geographic Information System
LDR	Land Development Regulations
LMS	Local Mitigation Strategy
NFIP	National Flood Insurance Program
NHC	National Hurricane Center
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NWS	National Weather Service
PCBDRS	Pinellas County Building Development and Review Services
PCC	Pinellas County Communications
PCEM	Pinellas County Emergency Management
PCPW	Pinellas County Public Works
SFHA	Special Flood Hazard Areas
SLOSH	Sea, Lake and Overland Surges from Hurricanes
SOG	Standard Operating Guide
USGS	United States Geological Survey
WAND	Warning and Notification Database

Appendix 2: EOC Organization Structure



Appendix 3: Hazard Analysis

Chapter 4-1 of the Pinellas County LMS describes the hazards that affect Pinellas County, including flood, wind, erosion, wildfire, and other natural and manmade hazards. The LMS contains an in-depth discussion of the natural hazards, including inland flooding, coastal flooding, hurricanes, and tropical storms. This plan focuses on the flood hazards that affect Pinellas County, including the developments exposed to flooding and the expected impacts to the health and safety of residents in the community. In addition to the information presented here, Pinellas County is affected by flooding nearly every year. These floods have caused extensive damage and loss of life in the past.

Causes Of Flooding

Flooding for Pinellas County is often attributed to coastal flooding, hurricanes and tropical storms, and inland flooding from heavy rainfall.

Coastal Flooding

Pinellas County is a peninsula, which makes it extremely vulnerable to coastal flooding, particularly on the barrier islands and in other low-lying areas along the coastline identified on the NFIP Flood Insurance Rate Maps and local governments' repetitive loss areas. The County has experienced several damaging coastal floods caused by wind-driven water associated with low-pressure systems or frontal boundaries. This flooding can be exacerbated at times of high-tide. The damaging effects to structures in the coastal areas are caused by a combination of high levels of storm surge, winds, waves, heavy rain, and erosion. Losses can occur over short periods or may have long-term effects.

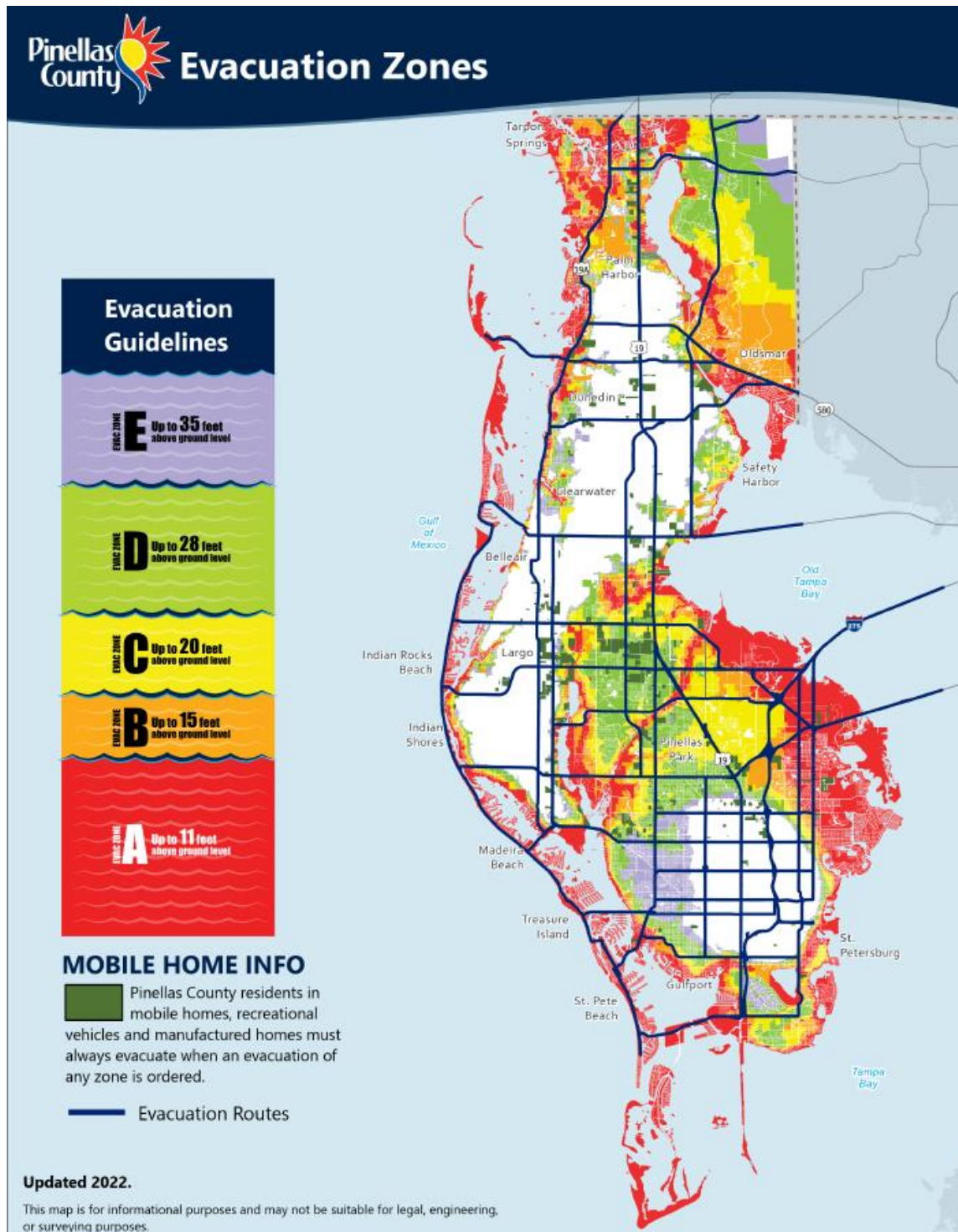
Hurricanes And Tropical Storms

Hurricanes are the natural disasters that pose the greatest threat to Florida and Pinellas County because of their relatively high frequency and potential to cause widespread casualties and property/infrastructure damage. Hazards often associated with hurricanes and tropical storms include storm surge, high winds, and heavy rainfall. Of the hurricane hazards, storm surge typically poses the greatest threat to lives and property located within surge-prone areas. The more intense the hurricane, and the closer to perpendicular its track is, in relation to the coastline, the higher the storm surge and resulting destruction will be. High winds may render large portions of the county vulnerable to the passing hurricane.

Throughout Unincorporated Pinellas County, the more than 43,000 mobile and manufactured homes will be unable to withstand hurricane-force winds.

Since the structure of every hurricane is unique, there is no way to determine the rate and distribution of the expected six to twelve inches of rainfall generally accompanying the storm. Storms that move slowly or stall may drop large amounts of rain, regardless of the category of storm. Localized evacuations for homes inundated by flood waters may be necessary after an event, as opposed to storm surge flooding which may necessitate evacuation prior to landfall. *Figure 25* illustrates the 2022 Evacuation Zones.

Figure 26: 2022 Storm Surge Zones (from Pinellas County Emergency Management)



Historically Pinellas County can expect a hurricane to affect us at least once every 4.5 years. The occurrence of a hurricane impacting the Tampa Bay area on an annual basis is high. The worst-case scenario for Pinellas County is a Category 5 Hurricane heading northeast at less than 15 miles per hour that makes landfall at high tide along the barrier island communities of mid-Pinellas County. A storm surge of over 30 feet at some coastal locations would inundate large areas of the county, while sustained winds of over 155 miles per hour with even higher gusts would destroy thousands of homes and cause damage to thousands more.

The principal tool for analyzing the expected hazards from potential hurricanes that may affect the Tampa Bay Region is the Sea, Lake, and Overland Surges from Hurricanes (SLOSH) numerical storm surge model. The SLOSH model predicts the tidal surge heights that result from test data about hypothetical hurricanes with various combinations of pressure, size, forward speed, track, and winds. Pinellas county has integrated all of the SLOSH data from the NHC into PELICAN, including directional analyses by forward speed. Pre-planning for the areas and numbers of people and critical facilities is done to assist with educating stakeholders on risk and real-time decision-making.

Inland Flooding

Thunderstorms and heavy rainfall affect Pinellas County on a frequent basis, especially in the rainy summer months (June through September). These storms often produce intense rainfall with flood impacts in many sections of Pinellas County. This problem becomes more severe if the heavy rainfall occurs at the same time as the astronomical high tide, which prevents much of the rainwater from flowing through the drainage system into the Gulf of Mexico or Tampa Bay.

The FEMA FIRM maps can be a good indication of where potential flooding issues are within Pinellas County. They represent detailed studies conducted by FEMA and others that describe the flooding potential for major riverine systems as well as coastal flooding. The flood data describe areas of high risk, including the 100-year and 500-year flood zones. They also describe the V Zones, which represent the most hazardous areas and generally include the beach properties. These are high hazard areas due to the wave velocities. *Figure 26* illustrates areas identified by FEMA Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHA). These are areas that are at the highest risk of flooding and were delineated using results from either riverine hydrologic & hydraulic models or coastal storm surge model. The model results are then compared to the local topography and the area predicted to be inundated make up the SFHA.

Figure 27: FEMA Special Flood Hazard Zones



In addition, Pinellas County conducted watershed management plans that identify these areas at risk in more detail, often using more updated data and incorporating the County's local knowledge of flooding issues. These plans describe the developments that are exposed to flooding, and include:

1. Allen's Creek
2. Anclote River
3. Bishop Creek and Mullet Creek
4. Brooker Creek
5. Clearwater Harbor / St Joseph Sound
6. Cross Bayou
7. Curlew Creek and Smith Bayou
8. Joe's Creek
9. Klosterman Bayou
10. Lake Seminole
11. Lake Tarpon
12. Long Branch
13. McKay Creek
14. Roosevelt Creek
15. Starkey Basin

The results of these plans help to identify those areas that are vulnerable to flooding from both small storms as well as less frequent, larger storms. *Figure 27* illustrates the areas identified to have a high potential for flooding based on the County's watershed management plans. The models not only indicate the extent of flooding, but can provide valuable information that includes:

- Flood elevation
- Depth of flooding
- Duration of flooding
- Areas of high flow or velocity

Figure 28 illustrates an example of the flood information for a segment of McKay Creek.

Figure 28: Pinellas County 100YR/24HR Flood Hazard Areas



Figure 29: Flood Elevation, Depth, Velocities and Duration (McKay Creek)



Historical Flooding

Based on historical information, Pinellas County remains highly vulnerable to inland flooding from heavy rains, high tide on the barrier islands and in other low-lying areas along the coastline identified on the NFIP Flood Insurance Rate Maps and local governments' repetitive loss areas. Examples of past flooding events include:

- June 1974: During the period of June 22 through June 30, 1974, Pinellas County received between 20 and 30 inches of rain. Damage to public and private property totaled more than \$20 million.
- May 1979: Flooding occurred when 10-18 inches of rain fell in Pinellas County on May 8, 1979. The massive rain event led to three deaths in St. Petersburg. One woman drowned when her truck was swept down a flooded street. Another woman and her 12-year-old daughter were sucked into a drainage ditch. About 200 people were evacuated from their homes in Tyrone and St. Petersburg. 17.6 inches of rain fell in St. Petersburg during a 14-hour period. Shore Acres received 12.4 inches, while Seminole received 10.78 inches, and Tyrone received 8.7 inches. Several roads and bridges were washed out. (*The Evening Independent*, 8/9/1979 and the NWS)
- September 1979: During the months of August and September 1979, Central Florida, including Pinellas County, experienced the most significant period of rainfall in over three decades. In some areas, the two-month rainfall total was more than 40 inches.
- September 1988: After a week of light to moderate rains, flooding began to occur county-wide. Areas of Pinellas Park, Clearwater and Dunedin were hardest hit. 13.25 inches of rain were recorded.
- September 1997: Thirty-hour rainfall totals of 8 to 14 inches caused flooding of roads, highways, homes, commercial buildings, low-lying areas and rivers over much of Pinellas and Hillsborough Counties. In St. Petersburg, a 13-year-old female was swept into a storm drain while playing in floodwaters at a city park on 36th Avenue N. and Eighth Street at 7 pm EST. She was dragged into raging waters underground for 2 blocks before she emerged and was rescued by firefighters. In St. Petersburg, floodwaters carried a 23-year-old woman twelve blocks underground in a drain before she was dumped into a retention pond with only minor injuries. Another woman was playing at Booker Creek under a wooden bridge with two children when she lost her footing and was carried off by the fast-moving flood waters. The heaviest rainfall and subsequent flooding occurred over the cities of Gulfport, Pinellas Park and St. Petersburg in southern Pinellas County. (National Climatic Data Center Storm Events and the NWS).
- February 2006: The combination of tropical moisture flowing into a line of thunderstorms and an approaching upper-level disturbance allowed a train of intense thunderstorms to repeatedly cross over parts of the Tampa Bay area on February 3, 2006. Between 8 and 11 inches of rain fell in roughly a five-hour period

in a five-mile-wide stripe extending from Madeira Beach northeast through Pinellas Park, then across Old Tampa Bay to west Tampa, including Tampa International Airport. The area of heaviest rain was so concentrated that downtown St. Petersburg, less than 10 miles away recorded less than an inch of rain during the same period. The torrential rains caused flash flooding in the areas where more than eight inches fell. The flash flooding prompted the mayor of St. Petersburg to term the event a "hundred-year flood." In Lealman, an entire mobile home community was evacuated, and at least 69 of the homes were flooded. A partial roof collapse was reported at a big box store in St. Petersburg. Water pouring into the store washed out several cash register stands and injured one employee as he was washed into the parking lot. Another roof collapsed at Treasure Island. Hundreds of vehicles were stranded by the flood waters. Total property damage was estimated at \$2.0 million. Rainfall amounts measured in Pinellas County include Pinellas Park (Upper Highlands Canal): 11.17 inches, Saint Petersburg/Clearwater International Airport: 8.20 inches, Seminole: 7.01 inches, Largo: 6.44 inches, and Clearwater: 5.81 inches.

- June 2012: Tropical Storm Debby: Tropical Storm Debby caused extensive flooding in North Florida and Central Florida during late June 2012. The fourth tropical cyclone and named storm of the 2012 Atlantic hurricane season, Debby developed from a trough of low pressure in the central Gulf of Mexico on June 23. In St. Petersburg, a wind gust of 45 mph was observed. The NWS reporting stations around Pinellas recorded 14.28 inches in Tarpon Springs, 13.66 in Largo, 12.60 in Oldsmar, 12.28 in Pinellas Park, 12.27 in Dunedin and 10.61 in St. Petersburg. There was substantial beach erosion. Portions of Upham Beach in Pinellas County were completely eroded up to the seawall and other areas in that county had lost 20 to 30 ft of sand. On Treasure Island, coastal dunes were eroded by 10 to 15 ft. In Pass-a-Grille, Debby's storm surge flooded coastal hotels with ankle-deep water as the dunes were washed away. Throughout St. Pete Beach, 30–40 homes were damaged by a tornado spawned by Debby. Losses throughout the county were estimated at over \$1.5 million.
- June 2013: TS Andrea: Tropical Storm Andrea brought flooding to Cuba, the Yucatan Peninsula, and portions of the East Coast of the United States in June 2013. The first tropical cyclone and named storm of the annual hurricane season, Andrea originated from an area of low pressure in the eastern Gulf of Mexico on June 5. Despite strong wind shear and an abundance of dry air, the storm strengthened while initially heading north-northeastward. Later on June 5, it re-curved northeastward and approached the Big Bend region of Florida. Forecasters issued a tornado warning for Pinellas County as the storm moved north past the County. Minor to moderate flooding was forecast through the event with potential coastal storm surges of 2 to 5 feet. Forecasters also sent out a flood advisory for Pinellas, warning of urban and small stream flooding. Over 4.82 inches of rain had fell in Largo, Gulfport saw 3.71 inches of rain and a tornado touchdown that caused damages to a commercial district.

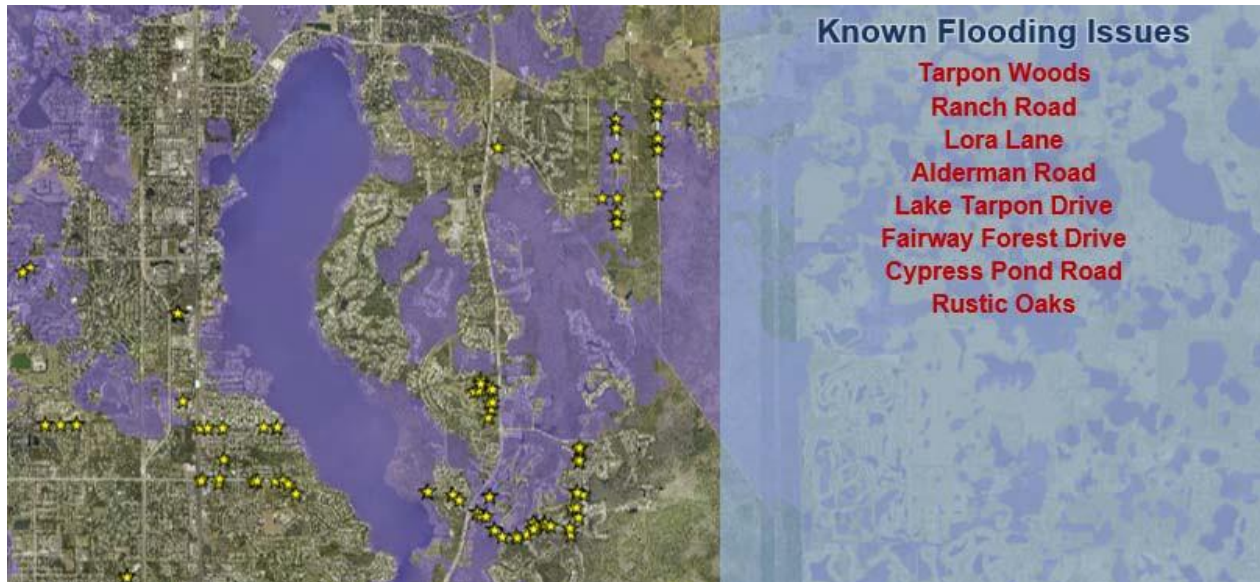
- July 2015: Areal Flood event: A late July early August stubborn low-pressure system stalled over central Florida bringing torrential rain to the Tampa Bay area. The NWS issued flood warnings for parts of Pasco, Pinellas and Hillsborough. Tampa shattered a 42-year- old record for the amount of rainfall for Aug. 1. when it received 3.1 inches of rain in one day. Over 14.46 inches of rain fell from July 28 – August 4 in the City of Clearwater.
- June 2016: TS Colin: Tropical Storm Colin was an atypical, poorly organized tropical cyclone, Colin developed from a low-pressure area over the Gulf of Mexico near the northern coast of the Yucatán Peninsula late on June 5, 2016. Moving northward, the depression strengthened into a tropical storm about eight hours after formation. The storm produced heavy rainfall over portions of Florida, resulting in flooding in some areas, especially Hillsborough and Pinellas counties. There, the freshwater flooding was compounded by coastal flooding from high tides. Winds caused over 93,300 power outages throughout the state. The storm spawned two tornadoes, one of which knocked down trees and damaged several cars and homes in Jacksonville. In Pinellas County, rainfall amounts peaked at 17.54 in the City of Seminole. Tropical storm force wind gusts were observed at several locations, though few locations reported sustained tropical storm force winds. A mobile home park in Clearwater was flooded, while water entered some homes in St. Pete Beach. Floodwaters overwhelmed the sewage system, forcing the city to pump partially treated sewage into Tampa Bay. Heavy rainfall in St. Petersburg resulted in water entering the hallway at St. Petersburg High School while school was in session. Overall, damage in the Tampa Bay area totaled over \$10,000.
- January 2017: A line of strong and fast-moving thunderstorms developed ahead of a cold front moving southeast through the Florida Peninsula. Breezy gradient winds were compounded by stronger thunderstorm wind gusts, some of which caused minor damage. Additionally, the persistent gradient winds caused minor coastal flooding. Water was observed to have risen 2.1 feet above the predicted high tide at Clearwater Beach. The city of Indian Rocks Beach also reported that beach erosion caused the loss of sand and damage to public signs and trash cans, totaling around \$20,000 in damage.

Flooding Hotspots

Pinellas County geocoded the historical claims data. This data was overlaid with other data, such as topographic information, FEMA flood zones, historical flooding complaints, and other information to identify areas within the County that are at risk for flooding. In addition, Pinellas County Public Works staff maintain an inventory of problem areas, or ‘hot spots,’ in the conveyance system. The County uses an enterprise maintenance management system to track the inspections and maintenance of the hot spots. In addition to the normally scheduled inspections, these locations are inspected before, during, and after major storm events. Field records are maintained in the management system, which allows staff to generate reports to monitor the problem area assets, observe trends, and identify new hot spots. Staff also identify flooding hot spots after a major storm and note the issues and lessons learned that

affect the various departments at the County. Projects to alleviate problems in these areas are incorporated into the County's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) based on prioritization and available funding. *Figure 29* illustrates an example for locations of hot spots.

Figure 30: Hot Spots



Repetitive Loss Areas Analysis

Pinellas County performed a repetitive loss areas analysis using the most recent repetitive loss properties data from FEMA, with the goal of reducing the number of repetitive loss properties (RLPs) within the County. A Repetitive Loss Structure is an NFIP-insured structure that has had at least two paid flood losses of more than \$1,000 each in any 10-year period since 1978. In addition, a Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL) Structure is defined as a residential property that is covered under an NFIP flood insurance policy and (a) has at least four NFIP claim payments (including building and contents) over \$5,000 each, and the cumulative amount of such claims payments exceeds \$20,000; or (b) at least two separate claims payments (building payments only) have been made with the cumulative amount of the building portion of such claims exceeding the market value of the building. For both (a) and (b) above, at least two of the referenced claims must have occurred within any 10-year period and must be more than 10 days apart.

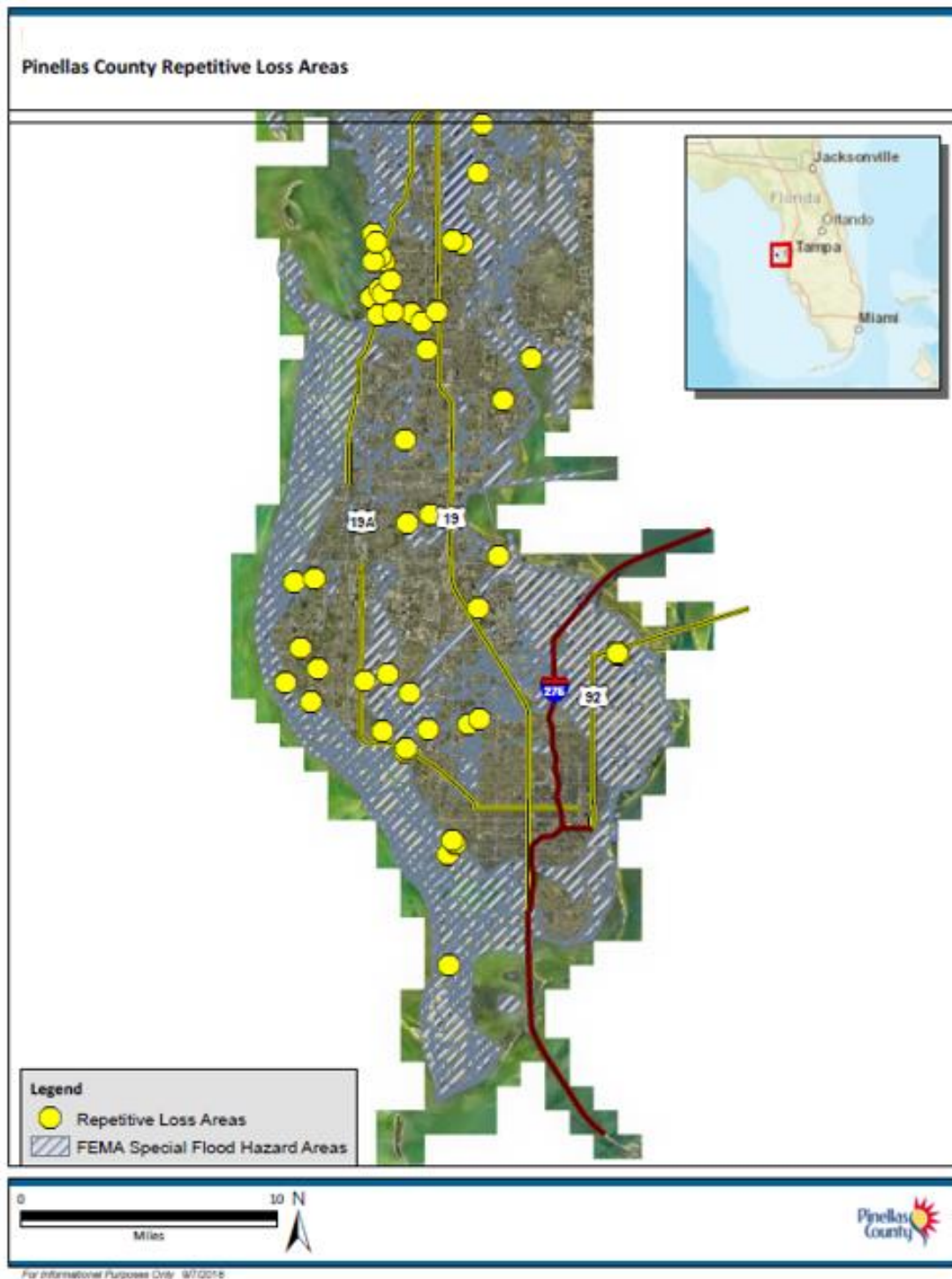
Pinellas County mapped the RLPs and evaluated nearby properties with the same potential for flooding. The repetitive loss areas include the properties on the repetitive loss list and all nearby properties that may experience similar flooding conditions. The repetitive loss areas were delineated based on compilation of the following data:

- Repetitive loss properties and data (e.g., number of losses and associated cost).
- LiDAR (elevation data, land slope).

- Conveyance system components (e.g., location and size of stormwater pipes, ditches, storage basins, work requests).
- Floodplains (e.g., WMP studies and FIRMs).
- Storm surge areas.
- Streetview.
- Historical flooding complaints.

Figure 30 illustrates the repetitive loss areas identified by the analysis. Flooding occurrences in these areas were due to significant storm events combined with structures located in or around water bodies. The terrain characteristics with respect to these structures can be described as low-lying areas with a high depth to the water table.

Figure 31: Pinellas County Repetitive Loss Areas



Development Exposed To Flooding

Pinellas County is vulnerable when a heavy rain event occurs. Hazard conditions become more significant if these events are accompanied by high tide and/or storm surge. These conditions can impact areas on the barrier islands and in other low-lying areas along the coastline identified on the NFIP Flood Insurance Rate Maps and repetitive loss areas. Inland flooding can also occur in depressional areas or areas having inadequate drainage systems. Prolonged periods of rainfall in these areas have the potential for causing damage to properties and could lead to evacuation of residents due to flooding.

Types Of Land Exposed To Flooding

Although much of the floodplains are located in and adjacent to waterbodies, most of the areas in Pinellas County are built-out. In addition to natural floodplain areas such as streams and wetlands, many other types of land are also exposed to flooding. F describes the different types of land in Pinellas County that can be potentially affected by flooding and the impact flooding could have on the economy of the County.

Types Of Buildings Exposed To Flooding

There are well over 30,000 buildings currently within FEMA's SFHA. However, based on additional analyses by the County and taking into account other types of flooding hazards such as storm surge, the number of affected buildings can be significantly more. *Figure 32* summarizes the unincorporated Pinellas County development that is exposed to different types of flooding. These statistics were derived based on analyses using GIS data. The number of affected buildings were determined by overlaying GIS features for building footprints with the specific hazard features.

Figure 32: Development Exposed to Flooding

PINELLAS COUNTY AND INCORPORATED AREAS	
<u>FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)</u>	
Total buildings in SFHA:	85,160
Zone VE:	1,583
Coastal A Zone:	8,982
Zone AE:	80,404
Zone AH:	3
Zone AO:	52
Zone A:	3,118
Zone X (Shaded):	31,058
Zone X:	232,103
<u>Pinellas County Floodplains (100-Year)</u>	
Non-Tidal (Outside of SFHA):	13,875
Coastal (Outside of SFHA):	18,391
Total Buildings in Pinellas County Floodplains (Outside of SFHA):	31,253
<u>Storm Surge</u>	
Category 1:	78,849
Category 2:	31,364
Category 3:	42,824
Category 4:	43,405
Category 5:	19,296
Total building count:	
348,321	
Buildings in Regulatory Floodplain Area (If WMPs and VA are adopted):	
116,413	

Critical Facilities

There are numerous Critical Facilities in Pinellas County that may be affected by flooding due to various types of natural hazards, including coastal flooding, storm surge, and significant rain events. *Figure 32* summarizes the vulnerability of certain types of critical facilities to flooding. The impacts of flooding on the health and safety of individuals within health care facilities can be significant given the large elderly population in Pinellas County. Flood waters can contribute to a variety of health hazards for the people within these critical facilities, including drowning, contamination/diseases, mold, and other hazards. PCEM through the healthcare CEMP review process maintains a database of contacts to provide year-round planning information, and real time notification of impending or occurring events to notify these facilities to maintain the safety of its residents and continuity of its operations. The vulnerability of critical facilities to other natural hazards can also be found in the Pinellas County LMS. Section 5 describes the critical facilities plan in more detail.

Pinellas County in coordination with the State Division of Emergency Management maintains a detailed inventory of critical facilities. These facilities are considered essential for Continuity of Government and Continuity of Operations. They represent public and private resources necessary to ensure public safety, emergency response and continuation of mission essential functions. The list of critical facilities is exempt from public record under Florida Statute 119.07(1) for security purposes. The list will be provided to federal, state, regional and local agencies with emergency management responsibilities, but will not be provided in documents intended for public review.

Figure 33: Critical Facilities in Flood Risk Areas

Location	Number of Critical Facilities in Flood Risk Area					
	Effective FIRM			Preliminary FIRM		
	100-year	500-year	VE-Zone	100-year	500-year	VE-Zone
Belleair	0	0	0	0	0	0
Belleair Beach	3	0	0	2	1	0
Belleair Bluffs	0	0	0	0	0	0
Belleair Shore	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clearwater	24	3	6	26	5	0
Dunedin	6	9	2	3	14	0
Gulfport	2	0	0	1	0	1
Indian Rocks Beach	3	0	0	3	0	0
Indian Shores	7	0	1	8	0	0
Kenneth City	3	0	0	0	1	0
Largo	13	7	0	11	10	0
Madeira Beach	5	0	0	5	0	0
North Redington Beach	2	0	0	2	0	0
Oldsmar	5	22	0	15	13	0
Pinellas Park	20	32	0	7	21	0
Redington Beach	3	0	1	4	0	0
Redington Shores	3	0	1	4	0	0
Safety Harbor	1	2	0	1	1	0
St. Petersburg	87	23	0	78	26	1
St. Pete Beach	7	0	2	9	0	0
Seminole	10	4	0	4	9	0
South Pasadena	14	0	4	16	0	2
Tarpon Springs	7	11	0	2	13	0
Treasure Island	13	0	1	13	1	0
Unincorporated	60	31	5	35	36	8
PINELLAS COUNTY TOTAL	298	144	23	249	151	12

***Source: Pinellas County Local Mitigation Strategy, 2020**

Impacts To Life, Health, Safety And Community

This section describes the impact to life, safety, health, critical facilities and infrastructure, economy and buildings within Pinellas County from these flood hazards. Additional descriptions of the vulnerabilities and impacts from these hazards to life, health, safety and community functions can also be found in Pinellas County's LMS and Post-Disaster Redevelopment Plan).

Life Safety

In Florida, common hazards to life safety include coastal and inland flooding, tropical storms, hurricanes, and lightning. Deep, fast flowing, or rapidly rising floodwaters can cause physical injury and loss of life. A mere 6 inches of moving water can sweep a

person away. The risk for drowning and physical injury increases when floodwaters carry debris. Floodwaters can also hide other hazards for wading pedestrians, such as manhole openings where the covers have been lifted by flood flow. Vehicles, too, can be moved by 6 inches of flowing water. Roads can be washed away. Downed power lines or other energized systems in the water can cause electrocution.

The maximum threat to Pinellas County is a hurricane- generated storm surge from a landfalling storm striking the coastline during an astronomical high tide. This would place up to 232,310 persons at risk, as well as 126,932 dwelling units from a category 1 storm (up to 11' AGL). Surges can be especially dangerous because water levels can rise quickly and flood large areas. If people have not evacuated from the risk area this leaves no time to take action and poses a significant threat of drowning. During the peak of a storm surge, it is unlikely that emergency responders will be able to respond to a call for help. Therefore, it is very important for residents and visitors to heed early warnings from officials.

Pinellas County uses the Alert Pinellas Notification System to notify residents, businesses and property owners in cases of emergencies such as tropical storms, hurricanes and other major flooding issues.

Error! Reference source not found. describes the potential impacts to life safety of these and other identified hazards for Pinellas County.

Table 1: Potential Impacts on Life Safety in Pinellas County

Hazard	Probability of Occurrence	Potential Impact
Coastal Flooding	High	Major coastal flooding as result of storm surge and/or high tide in the County can pose a threat to human life.
Inland Flooding	High	Floodwaters have the potential to cause drowning. The risk for drowning and physical injury is increased if floodwater is carrying debris. Floodwaters can also hide other hazards for wading pedestrians, such as manhole openings where the covers have been lifted by flood flow.
Tropical Storm / Hurricane	High	Storm surge or flooding from tropical storms and hurricanes can be extremely dangerous, since water levels can rise quickly and flood large areas, potentially causing drowning. Additional dangers include flying debris, falling trees, and electrocution from downed power lines.
Dam Failure	Low	Potential impact of a dam failure is low.

Coastal Erosion	High	Coastal erosion accompanying tropical storms or hurricanes has a higher potential to cause injury or drowning.
-----------------	------	--

In the event of a community emergency, Pinellas County has more than 30 emergency shelters for residents and visitors available as a last resort, including three pet-friendly shelters. Pinellas County provides a shelter program for those residents requiring special medically related care. Special needs shelters will be available for persons requiring more skilled medical care than available in a public shelter but not requiring an acute care facility such as a hospital. A listing of the shelters could potentially open is available on the Pinellas County website. Once a determination to open shelters has been made, the actual shelters that open will be communicated via media and updated on all of our GIS products, including Know Your Zone so residents can see the closest available shelter to them.

Public Health

Of all hazards, flooding presents the most prevalent risk to public health. Floodwater may be contaminated by various pollutants such as sewage, human and animal feces, pesticides and insecticides, fertilizers, oil, asbestos, rusting building material, and others. Prolonged flooding also provides breeding grounds for mosquitoes. Flooded homes are exposed to mold and mildew and can cause flood victims to contract upper respiratory diseases and trigger cold-like symptoms.

Power outages caused by hurricanes can present health concerns from food spoilage and high heat and humidity can cause heat exhaustion or heat stroke. Floodwaters present an additional health hazard when they inundate drinking water facilities, chemical and waste storage facilities, wastewater treatment facilities, and solid waste disposal sites.

A major storm can leave victims isolated without water and medicines. For individuals who are injured in the storm or whose care for chronic conditions lapses restoring medical care services is a public health priority.

Community Infrastructure

Significant impacts on the region's bridges - especially the approaches - are expected on all causeways including the Courtney Campbell Causeway, Howard Frankland Bridge, Gandy Bridge and the Skyway Bridge during extreme weather events, including hurricanes and tropical storms. Damage to the transportation infrastructure, and the fact that a storm can impact areas across the entire state, can slow the influx of recovery personnel and supplies into the area. Interstate 75 (I-75), Interstate 275 (I-275), and Interstate 4 (I-4) are expected to be the primary routes used to transport goods and people into and out of the affected zone during a response and recovery effort within the nine-county West Central Florida area and are the Florida Department of Transportation's top priority for debris clearance.

The loss of business facilities, utilities, and transportation are major impacts of flooding. The closure of roads and public transportation services can prevent employees from getting to work and employers from providing goods and services. The closure of businesses can affect the economy due to loss of revenue, fixed costs, replacement costs, and other expenses. In addition, there are several critical facilities located in storm surge vulnerable areas (in addition to the countywide vulnerability to hurricane-force winds). A discussion of storm surge-vulnerable facilities can be found in Section 5 of this plan.

A significant storm destroying a large segment of the power grid is the maximum threat likely to affect both Pinellas County's power source and distribution systems. If the outage lasts more than a few days, it may affect critical infrastructure including water/wastewater systems, health care facilities, communications, and transportation. However, there is a low probability that a total power failure will occur in Pinellas County; although, if it were to happen, the impact would be extremely high. Since the County is so densely populated, and there is a high number of elderly people who are electrically dependent, an extended period without power would have a significant impact. In addition, telecommunications are dependent upon power so an extended outage would have a substantial economic impact.

Appendix D

Flood Insurance Improvement Plan

**PINELLAS COUNTY
PROGRAM FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION
ANNUAL REPORT
FOR
FLOOD INSURANCE COVERAGE IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

Pinellas County | August, 2022



TABLE OF CONTENTS

1 INTRODUCTION AND PLANNING COMMITTEE	1-1
2 ASSESSMENT OF PUBLIC INFORMATION NEEDS AND TARGET AUDIENCES.....	ERROR!
BOOKMARK NOT DEFINED.	
3 MESSAGES AND OUTCOMES	ERROR! BOOKMARK NOT DEFINED.
4 PROGRAM FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION (PPI) PROJECTS..	ERROR! BOOKMARK NOT DEFINED.
FRMPIWG SharePoint Toolkit	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Flood Response Plan	Error! Bookmark not defined.
5 FLOOD INSURANCE IMPROVEMENT PLAN	ERROR! BOOKMARK NOT DEFINED.

LIST OF TABLES

Table 2-1	PPI Meetings.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
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APPENDICES

Appendix A – Key Messages
Appendix B – Status of PPI Projects

1 INTRODUCTION

This annual report presents the ongoing status of the Pinellas County Flood Insurance Coverage Improvement Plan which is developed and coordinated by the multi-jurisdictional Pinellas County Flood Risk and Mitigation Public Information Working Group (FRMPIWG) who serves as the Flood Insurance Assessment and Improvement Plan Committee. The FRMPIWG is also responsible for developing and coordinating the efforts of the multi-jurisdictional Program for Public Information Program (PPI), Floodplain Management, Flood Warning and Response, and providing input to the multi-jurisdictional Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS). The FRMPIWG includes representatives from the community's floodplain management division and the public information office as well as representatives from local insurance agencies.

The Flood Insurance Coverage Improvement Plan includes all unincorporated areas of Pinellas County and the following municipalities who are represented in the committee members:

- Town of Belleair
- City of Belleair Beach
- City of Clearwater
- City of Gulfport
- City of Indian Rocks Beach
- Town of Indian Shores
- City of Madeira Beach
- City of Oldsmar
- City of Pinellas Park
- Town of Redington Beach
- Town of Redington Shores
- City of South Pasadena
- City of St. Petersburg
- City of St. Pete Beach
- City of Tarpon Springs
- City of Treasure Island

Note: In 2021 the City of Belleair Beach joined the program, and the City of Largo withdrew.

2 FLOOD INSURANCE COVERAGE ASSESSMENT

REVIEW OF FLOOD INSURANCE POLICY DATA

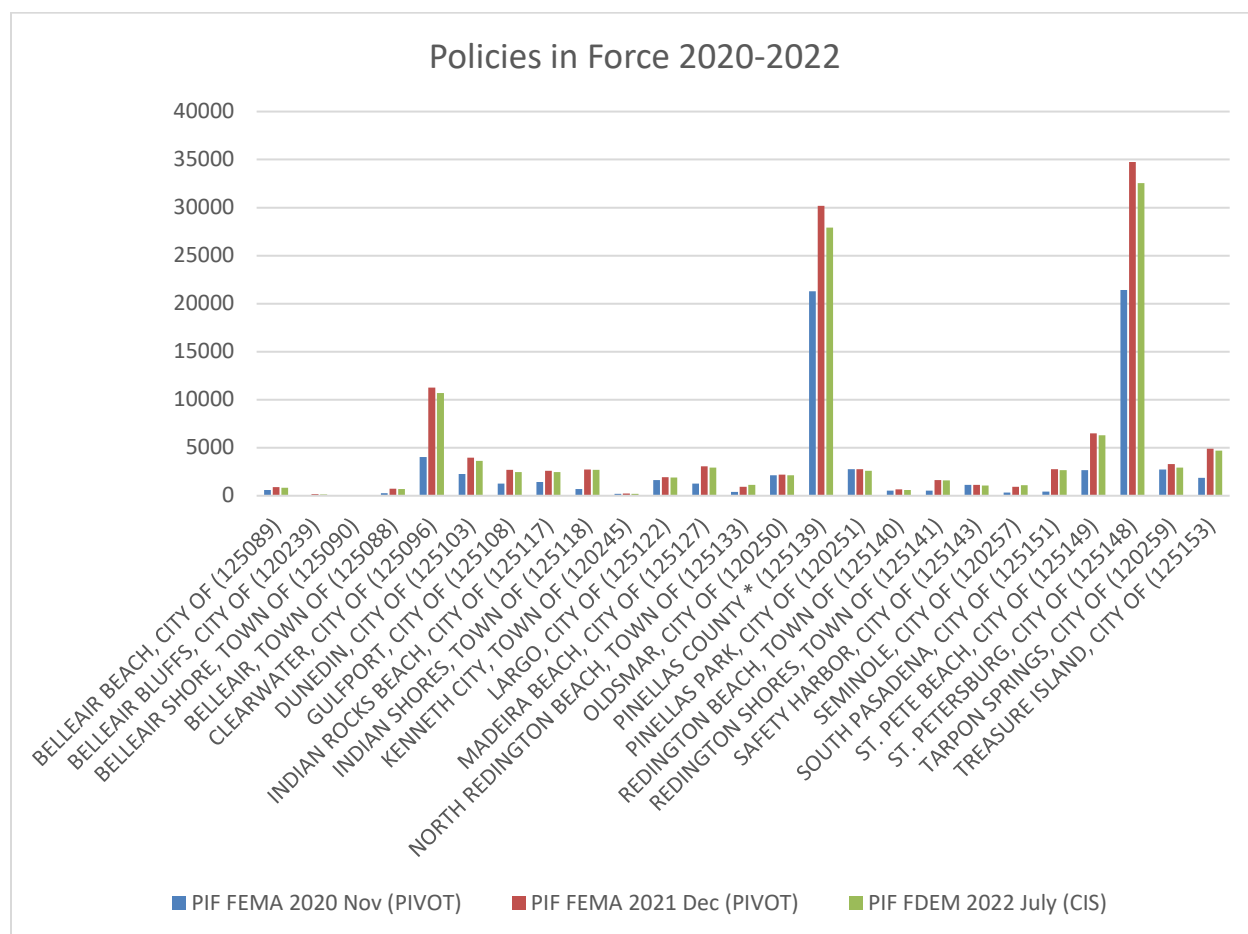
Flood insurance policy data generated from PIVOT, was provided to the County in December of 2021 and data from the CIS was provided by the State in July of 2022. A comparison of these data and these data to last year's annual review can be found in Table 1 and Figure 1.

Table 1: Pinellas County Community NFIP Policies in Force and Premiums Summary 2020-2022

	FEMA 2020 Nov (PIVOT)	FEMA 2020 (PIVOT)	FDEM 2022 July (CIS)	FDEM 2022 July (CIS)	FEMA 2021 Dec (PIVOT)	FEMA 2021 Dec (PIVOT)
Community Name (Number)	Count of Total Premium + Fees2	Sum of Total Premium + Fees	Active Policies	Total Premium + Policy Fee (Active Contracts)	Total Number of Policies	Total Premiums
BELLEAIR BEACH, CITY OF (125089)	596	\$1,995,619	893	\$1,560,881	841	\$1,345,584
BELLEAIR BLUFFS, CITY OF (120239)	39	\$85,219	158	\$56,996	126	\$39,031
BELLEAIR SHORE, TOWN OF (125090)	29	\$120,824	32	\$109,047	29	\$80,676
BELLEAIR, TOWN OF (125088)	252	\$553,582	726	\$432,809	710	\$387,549
CLEARWATER, CITY OF (125096)	4030	\$10,250,948	11,267	\$8,426,272	10,680	\$7,252,485
DUNEDIN, CITY OF (125103)	2265	\$4,596,723	3,973	\$3,683,880	3,635	\$3,083,703
GULFPORT, CITY OF (125108)	1261	\$2,212,901	2,693	\$1,847,712	2,471	\$1,564,287
INDIAN ROCKS BEACH, CITY OF (125117)	1420	\$3,123,821	2,599	\$2,472,764	2,475	\$2,216,738
INDIAN SHORES, TOWN OF (125118)	700	\$2,188,055	2,742	\$1,610,169	2,687	\$1,374,573
KENNETH CITY, TOWN OF (120245)	192	\$191,649	225	\$147,271	206	\$130,062
LARGO, CITY OF (125122)	1620	\$1,667,860	1,939	\$1,362,598	1,896	\$1,338,335
MADEIRA BEACH, CITY OF (125127)	1267	\$4,167,557	3,049	\$3,483,043	2,937	\$3,142,950
NORTH REDINGTON BEACH, TOWN OF (125133)	381	\$1,169,792	942	\$884,361	1,144	\$889,380

	FEMA 2020 Nov (PIVOT)	FEMA 2020 (PIVOT)	FDEM 2022 July (CIS)	FDEM 2022 July (CIS)	FEMA 2021 Dec (PIVOT)	FEMA 2021 Dec (PIVOT)
Community Name (Number)	Count of Total Premium + Fees2	Sum of Total Premium + Fees	Active Policies	Total Premium + Policy Fee (Active Contracts)	Total Number of Policies	Total Premiums
OLDSMAR, CITY OF (120250)	2135	\$2,335,748	2,192	\$1,977,153	2,116	\$1,924,680
PINELLAS COUNTY * (125139)	21292	\$27,093,120	30,187	\$20,997,595	27,917	\$17,524,450
PINELLAS PARK, CITY OF (120251)	2756	\$2,477,379	2,771	\$1,999,020	2,582	\$1,749,831
REDINGTON BEACH, TOWN OF (125140)	544	\$1,607,955	677	\$1,371,739	583	\$1,223,179
REDINGTON SHORES, TOWN OF (125141)	515	\$1,425,989	1,622	\$1,196,693	1,611	\$1,126,617
SAFETY HARBOR, CITY OF (125143)	1121	\$789,776	1,132	\$630,994	1,057	\$585,077
SEMINOLE, CITY OF (120257)	347	\$448,826	918	\$452,696	1,111	\$591,036
SOUTH PASADENA, CITY OF (125151)	417	\$2,431,157	2,777	\$2,123,167	2,665	\$1,839,217
ST. PETE BEACH, CITY OF (125149)	2671	\$9,804,875	6,493	\$8,326,899	6,286	\$7,487,171
ST. PETERSBURG, CITY OF (125148)	21433	\$42,062,774	34,754	\$35,746,131	32,564	\$31,572,823
TARPON SPRINGS, CITY OF (120259)	2731	\$3,827,672	3,291	\$2,978,912	2,928	\$2,583,057
TREASURE ISLAND, CITY OF (125153)	1869	\$6,159,778	4,898	\$5,165,872	4,683	\$4,748,136

Figure 1: Pinellas County Community NFIP Policies in Force Summary 2020-2022



Increases in CRS discounts align with increases in CRS class (2016 and 2021), however, policy counts have declined after being relatively stable from 2016 to 2021 (Figure 1). Although the CRS discount increased in unincorporated Pinellas County from 25% to 35% in 2021, Risk Rating 2.0 was also rolled out and the FEMA FIRM was updated. The expected increase in policy count from the higher discount in 2021 did not occur. Rather, there was a decrease in policy counts, which continues to decline. It is unclear how many people who dropped NFIP policies have bought flood coverage through a private insurer, how many dropped because of increasing rates, and how many dropped because with the FIRM update many properties were no longer required to have coverage. The decreasing number of policies of concern and the County will continue to implement outreach to educate the public about the benefits of coverage following a flood. It should also be noted that based on the data provided from PIVOT in December 2021, the majority of the PIF in unincorporated were for single story structures (Table 3) and countywide most of the PIF were for residential structures in the SFHA (Figure 3 and Table 2). As such a focus on outreach to residential properties will take precedence.

Figure 2 Unincorporated Pinellas County PIF vs CRS Discount (\$)

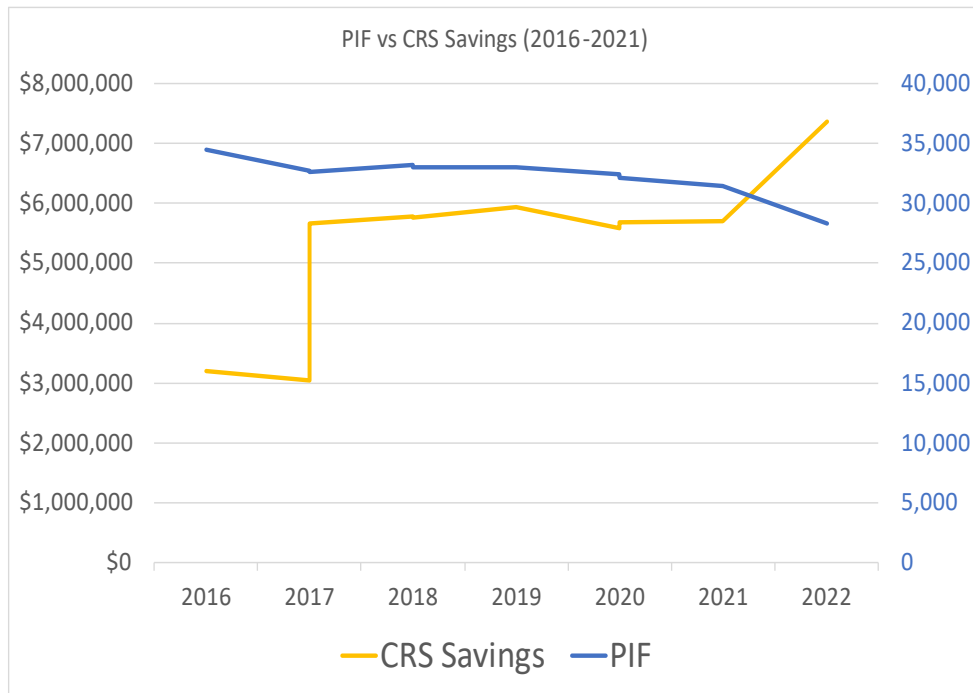


Figure 3: Countywide PIF by Flood Zone and Structure Type

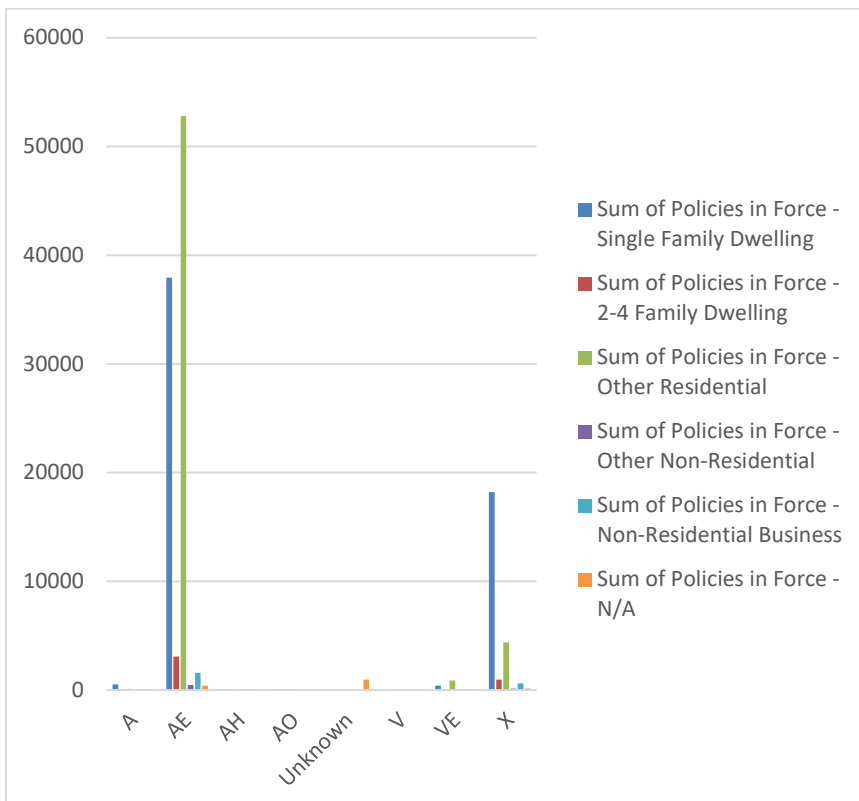


Table 2: Countywide PIF by Flood Zone and Structure Type

Zone	Sum of Policies in Force - Single Family Dwelling	Sum of Policies in Force - 2-4 Family Dwelling	Sum of Policies in Force - Other Residential	Sum of Policies in Force - Other Non-Residential	Sum of Policies in Force - Non-Residential Business	Sum of Policies in Force - N/A
A	531	36	121	7	22	1
AE	37931	3080	52810	450	1590	398
AH	86	3		4	4	
AO	2	5	6			
Unkn wn						968
V						
VE	405	57	863	16	42	55
X	18216	975	4367	149	600	141
Grand Total	57171	4156	58167	626	2258	1563

Table 3 Policies in Force by Jurisdiction and Building Type

City	Grand Total	1. One Floor	2. Two Floors	3. Three or more Floors	4. Split-Level	5. Manufactured (Mobile) Home or Travel Trailer on Foundation	6. Townhouse/Rowhouse with Three or More Floors
BELLEAIR BEACH, CITY OF (125089)	893	281	247	365			
BELLEAIR BLUFFS, CITY OF (120239)	158	28	2	128			
BELLEAIR SHORE, TOWN OF (125090)	32	10	11	11			
BELLEAIR, TOWN OF (125088)	726	122	73	531			
CLEARWATER, CITY OF (125096)	11267	2324	1392	7482	5	47	17
DUNEDIN, CITY OF (125103)	3973	1467	788	1665	5	36	12
GULFPORT, CITY OF (125108)	2693	703	315	1671	4		
INDIAN ROCKS BEACH, CITY OF (125117)	2599	507	675	1384	3		30
INDIAN SHORES, TOWN OF (125118)	2742	120	487	2134	1		
KENNETH CITY, TOWN OF (120245)	225	160	62	3			
LARGO, CITY OF (125122)	1939	1186	380	238	1	134	
MADEIRA BEACH, CITY OF (125127)	3049	729	536	1776	8		
NORTH REDINGTON BEACH, TOWN OF (125133)	942	164	206	572			
OLDSMAR, CITY OF (120250)	2192	1446	503	77	2	164	

City	Grand Total	1. One Floor	2. Two Floors	3. Three or more Floors	4. Split-Level	5. Manufactured (Mobile) Home or Travel Trailer on Foundation	6. Townhouse/Rowhouse with Three or More Floors
PINELLAS COUNTY * (125139)	30187	13486	8363	7986	67	265	20
PINELLAS PARK, CITY OF (120251)	2771	2498	210	15	5	43	
REDINGTON BEACH, TOWN OF (125140)	677	344	143	190			
REDINGTON SHORES, TOWN OF (125141)	1622	255	121	1243	3		
SAFETY HARBOR, CITY OF (125143)	1132	669	340	85		38	
SEMINOLE, CITY OF (120257)	918	170	278	463	1	6	
SOUTH PASADENA, CITY OF (125151)	2777	182	198	2390	1	6	
ST. PETE BEACH, CITY OF (125149)	6493	1496	998	3993	6		
ST. PETERSBURG, CITY OF (125148)	34754	14641	9549	10352	61	121	30
TARPON SPRINGS, CITY OF (120259)	3291	1539	1005	651	14	38	44
TREASURE ISLAND, CITY OF (125153)	4898	1018	1449	2329	7		95
Total	122950	45545	28331	47734	194	898	248

**CITY COMMISSION MEETING
CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH**

Agenda Report

Action Request: "I move to adopt Ordinance 2023-15."

Strategic Objective: NA

Date: November 14, 2023

Prepared By: Sheila Dalton, Finance Director

Through: Bonnie Jensen

Summary of Issue: The adoption of Ordinance 2023-15 is required by the Florida Division of Retirement to allow the St. Pete Beach Fire Pension Plan membership to transfer to the Florida Retirement System (FRS).

Funding: NA

Attachments:

1. Ordinance Florida Retirement System 2023-15
2. Business Impact Estimate - Ordinance Florida Retirement System

Ordinance 2023-15

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH, FLORIDA RELATED TO MEMBERSHIP INTO THE FLORIDA RETIREMENT SYSTEM PROVIDING FOR CORRECTION OF SCRIVENER'S ERROR; CONSTRUCTION; PUBLICATION; AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the policy and purposes of the City of St. Pete Beach, Florida, is to extend to the Firefighters of said City of St. Pete Beach not excluded by law, the benefits of the Florida Retirement System, on the basis of applicable State laws and amendments thereto, and rules and regulations, authorizing and directing the Chairman (or other chief executive officer) to execute agreements thereto with the Department of Management Services, for coverage of said Firefighters; providing for withholding from salaries and wages of the Firefighters of the City of St. Pete Beach so covered to be made and paid over as provided by applicable State laws or regulations; providing that said City of St. Pete Beach shall appropriate and pay over employer's contributions and assessments as provided by applicable State laws or regulations; providing that said City of St. Pete Beach shall keep records and make reports as required by applicable State laws or regulations.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH FLORIDA, HEREBY ORDAINS:

SECTION 1. Recitals. The above recitals ("Whereas" clauses) are hereby adopted as legislative findings, purpose and intent of the City Commission.

SECTION 2. It is hereby declared to be the policy and purpose of the City of St. Pete Beach Florida that all its Firefighters except those excluded by law, shall participate in the Florida Retirement System as authorized by Chapter 121, Florida Statutes. All eligible Firefighters shall be compulsory members of the Florida Retirement System as of the effective date of participation in the Florida Retirement System so stated herein.

SECTION 3. The Mayor, City Manager, or designee is hereby authorized and directed to execute all necessary agreements and amendments thereto with the Administrator of the Florida Retirement System for the purpose of extending the benefits provided by the Florida Retirement System to the Firefighters of this City of St. Pete Beach as provided by Section 2 & 3 hereof, which agreement shall provide for such methods of administration of the plan by said City of St. Pete Beach as are found by the Administrator of the Florida Retirement System to be necessary and proper, and shall be effective with respect to any employment covered by such agreement for serviced performed on and after the 1st day of December, 2023.

SECTION 4. Withholding from salaries, wages, or other compensation of the Firefighters for the purpose provided in Section 2 hereof are hereby authorized to be made, and shall be made, in the amounts and at such times as may be required by applicable State laws or regulations and shall be paid over to the Administrator designated by said laws or regulations to receive such amounts.

SECTION 5. There shall be appropriated from available funds, derived from the City's general operating budget such amounts and at such times as may be required to pay promptly the contributions and assessments required of the City of St. Pete Beach, Florida, as employer, by applicable State laws or regulations, which shall be paid over to the lawfully designated Administrator of the Florida Retirement System at the times and in the manner provided by law and regulation.

SECTION 6. The City of St. Pete Beach, Florida, shall keep such records and make such reports as may be required by applicable State laws or regulations, and shall adhere to all laws and regulations relating to the Florida Retirement System.

SECTION 7. The City of St. Pete Beach, Florida, does hereby adopt the terms, conditions, requirements, reservations, benefits, privileges, and other conditions thereunto appertaining, of the Florida Retirement System, for and on behalf of all Firefighters of its departments and agencies to be covered under the agreement.

SECTION 8. The Finance Director of the City of St. Pete Beach, Florida, is hereby designated the custodian of all sums withheld from the compensation of Firefighters authorized herein and of the appropriated funds for the employer's contributions as provided in Section 6 hereof. Also, the Finance Director is hereby designated the withholding and reporting agent and charged with the duty of maintaining records for the purpose of this ordinance.

SECTION 9. Scrivener's Error. The City Attorney may correct scrivener's errors found in this Ordinance by filing a corrected copy of this Ordinance with the City Clerk.

SECTION 10. Construction. This Ordinance is to be liberally construed to accomplish its objectives.

SECTION 11. Publication. This Ordinance shall be published in accordance with the requirements of law.

SECTION 12. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon approval and publication as required by law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Ordinance fully executed as in original, duly attested by the City Clerk, be furnished to the Administrator of the Florida Retirement System.

FIRST READING: _____
PUBLISHED: _____
SECOND READING: _____
PUBLIC HEARING: _____

CITY COMMISSION, CITY OF ST. PETE
BEACH, FLORIDA.

Adrian Petrila, Mayor

I, Amber LaRowe, City Clerk of the City of St. Pete Beach, Florida, do hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance was duly adopted in accordance with the provisions of applicable law this _____ day of _____, 2023.

Amber LaRowe, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

Andrew Dickman, City Attorney

Words ~~stricken~~ through shall be deleted. Words underscored constitute the amendment proposed. The symbol *** constitutes code sections not shown for purposes of brevity. Remaining provisions are now in effect and remain unchanged.

Business Impact Estimate

This form should be included in the agenda packet for the item under which the proposed ordinance is to be considered and must be posted on the City of St. Pete Beach website by the time notice of the proposed ordinance is published.

Proposed ordinance's title/reference: **AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH, FLORIDA RELATED TO MEMBERSHIP INTO THE FLORIDA RETIREMENT SYSTEM PROVIDING FOR CORRECTION OF SCRIVENER'S ERROR; CONSTRUCTION; PUBLICATION; AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

This Business Impact Estimate is provided in accordance with section 166.041(4), Florida Statutes. If one or more boxes are checked below, this means the City of St. Pete Beach is of the view that a business impact estimate is not required by state law¹ for the proposed ordinance, but the City of St. Pete Beach is, nevertheless, providing this Business Impact Estimate as a courtesy and to avoid any procedural issues that could impact the enactment of the proposed ordinance. This Business Impact Estimate may be revised following its initial posting.

- ☐ The proposed ordinance is required for compliance with Federal or State law or regulation;
- ☐ The proposed ordinance relates to the issuance or refinancing of debt;
- ☐ The proposed ordinance relates to the adoption of budgets or budget amendments, including revenue sources necessary to fund the budget;
- ☒ The proposed ordinance is required to implement a contract or an agreement, including, but not limited to, any Federal, State, local, or private grant or other financial assistance accepted by the municipal government;
- ☐ The proposed ordinance is an emergency ordinance;
- ☐ The ordinance relates to procurement; or
- ☐ The proposed ordinance is enacted to implement the following:
 - a. Part II of Chapter 163, Florida Statutes, relating to growth policy, county and municipal planning, and land development regulation, including zoning, development orders, development agreements and development permits;
 - b. Sections 190.005 and 190.046, Florida Statutes, regarding community development districts;
 - c. Section 553.73, Florida Statutes, relating to the Florida Building Code; or
 - d. Section 633.202, Florida Statutes, relating to the Florida Fire Prevention Code.

In accordance with the provisions of controlling law, even notwithstanding the fact that an exemption noted above may apply, the City of St. Pete Beach hereby publishes the following information:

¹ See Section 166.041(4)(c), Florida Statutes.

1. Summary of the proposed ordinance (must include a statement of the public purpose, such as serving the public health, safety, morals and welfare): City firefighters shall participate in the Florida Retirement System as authorized by Chapter 121, Florida Statutes. All eligible firefighters shall be compulsory members of the Florida Retirement System as of December 1, 2023.

2. An estimate of the direct economic impact of the proposed ordinance on private, for-profit businesses in the City of St. Pete Beach, if any:

The proposed ordinance is a generally applicable ordinance that applies to all persons similarly situated (individuals as well as businesses) and does not affect only businesses. There is no direct compliance cost that businesses will incur and there is no new charge or fee imposed by the proposed Ordinance. See attached Actuarial impact statement regarding a statement of costs to the City of St. Pete Beach as a result of closing the Pension Plan. Additional costs not included in the impact statement are the ongoing costs of participating in the FRS for the Firefighters hired on or after December 1, 2023.

3. Good faith estimate of the number of businesses likely to be impacted by the proposed ordinance:

The proposed ordinance is a generally applicable ordinance that applies to all persons similarly situated (individuals as well as businesses); therefore, the proposed ordinance does not affect only businesses.

4. Additional information the governing body deems useful (if any):

The proposed ordinance is a generally applicable ordinance that applies to all persons similarly situated (individuals as well as businesses); therefore, the proposed ordinance does not affect only businesses.

[You may wish to include in this section the methodology or data used to prepare the Business Impact Estimate. For example: City of St. Pete Beach staff solicited comments from businesses in the City of St. Pete Beach as to the potential impact of the proposed ordinance by contacting the chamber of commerce, social media posting, direct mail or direct email, posting on City of St. Pete Beach website, public workshop, etc. You may also wish to include efforts made to reduce the potential fiscal impact on businesses. You may also wish to state here that the proposed ordinance is a generally applicable ordinance that applies to all persons similarly situated (individuals as well as businesses) and, therefore, the proposed ordinance does not affect only businesses].

CITY COMMISSION MEETING CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH

Agenda Report

Action Request:	Motion to adopt Resolution 2023-22.
Strategic Objective:	Improvement of internal operations to meet State Law as well as improve the City's ability to manage records and respond to public records request with digitized/organized records.
Date:	November 14, 2023
Prepared By:	Amber LaRowe, City Clerk
Through:	Matthew McConnell, Assistant City Attorney
Summary of Issue:	It is necessary for the City of St. Pete Beach to adopt guidelines for the management of City documents. The Records Management Policy outlines State Statutes, proper disposition compliant with the Florida Department of State, as well as the proper electronic management of records via the digital filing cabinet, Laserfiche. The City Clerk's Office will provide training to all City employees on this Policy once adopted and on the proper use of Laserfiche.
Funding:	NA
Attachments:	1. Res 2023-22 Exhibit A -- RecordsManual 2023 2. Resolution 2023-22 Records Management Policy

RESOLUTION 2023-22
EXHIBIT “A”
CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH, FLORIDA
RECORDS MANAGEMENT POLICY

PURPOSE

The records that Florida’s state and local government agencies keep while carrying out their duties and responsibilities are public records (Florida Statutes Chapter 119). Public records are different from records of businesses and private organizations because Florida Law requires public records to be readily accessible and available to the public upon request. All employees must ensure that public records in their custody are maintained and accessible as required by Florida Laws. Employees and agencies do not have the authority to withhold records deemed “sensitive.” The only records that can be withheld from public disclosure are those specifically designated by Federal Law or by Florida Statutes as confidential or exempt.

The purpose of this policy is to provide City employees with the information and procedures necessary to understand and carry out their responsibilities under the Florida Public Records Law.

Good records management ensures that information is available when and where it is needed, in an organized and efficient manner, and in an appropriate, transparent environment.

POLICY STATEMENT

A records management policy will affirm the public’s right to access municipal records of the City of St. Pete Beach and set forth the procedures that will facilitate the accessibility of information. The policy will ensure the economic and efficient management of information, set guidelines for ongoing training, and establish fees levied by the City to cover the cost of responding to public records requests.

The benefits of an effective records and information management program include compliance with legal retention requirements, protection of vital records, control over the creation of new and/or duplicate records, faster retrieval of information, fewer lost or misfiled records, and the reduction of expenditures for space needs and records filing equipment.

This policy will apply to all employees and officers of the City, including all members appointed to citizen advisory boards and committees.

RECORDS MANAGEMENT LIAISON OFFICER (RMLO)

Florida Statutes 257.36(5) requires that government agencies appoint a Records Management Liaison Officer (“RMLO”) to establish and maintain an active and continuing records management program. As the RMLO, the City Clerk is responsible for the development of the City’s records management program and ensuring that records no longer needed are disposed of with propriety. Though ultimately responsible for the Records Program, the RMLO can assign coordination of these and other interagency management practices to his/her designees.

RMLO RESPONSIBILITIES

- Serves as the primary point of contact between the agency and the State Bureau of Archives and Record Management
- Coordinates and accommodates public records requests
- Conducts records inventory
- Coordinates interagency records management
- Maintains a continuing retention and disposal system in accordance with the Bureau of Archives

The RMLO will act as System Administrator for all City-related records management issues, conduct training in the use of Laserfiche software, work with IT in installing upgrades and maintenance, and coordinate with departments to determine their imaging needs.

The RMLO/City Clerk’s Office is responsible for providing training to City employees on an annual basis. Failure to attend the training and to comply with this Policy may result in disciplinary action.

CITY RECORDS INSPECTION

The City will provide public records in accordance with Florida Law in a timely manner to the best of our ability. The City may not require that a requesting party submit the request in writing or provide their name or address as a condition to inspect the documents. A verbal request shall remain anonymous if requested. Access to public records is a statutory right. According to F.S. 119.07, every

person who has custody of a public record shall permit the record to be inspected and examined by any person desiring to do so, at any reasonable time, under reasonable conditions, under the supervision of the custodian of the public record or the custodian's designee. The individuals providing copies to the public must be knowledgeable of the records that are exempt or confidential or that contain exempt or confidential information.

Any questions arising on confidential or exempt information should be addressed with the City Clerk.

The City is not required to generate or create documents if asked for documents that do not exist. Although required to provide the document for inspection, neither the City nor any of its employees are required to answer questions regarding the documents.

EMAIL

All electronic mail (e-mail) communications meeting the statutory definition of a "public record" must be retained in accordance with Florida Law. To satisfy this requirement the City shall acquire, implement, and maintain IT systems that maintain a searchable archive of messages sent or received from the agency's centralized email platform.

TEXTS

Employees shall transmit and/or receive text messages only on devices owned or leased by the City. All City-issued cellular/mobile phones shall be enrolled into the retention system to ensure that all communications sent or received on the City-owned device are automatically retained for public record purposes.

ELECTRONIC/SCANNED RECORDS

City employees shall maintain records in accordance with record schedules and City policies regardless of their format, including those records created or maintained electronically. The City has adopted the use of various electronic repository software systems such as CentralSquare, iWorq, and Civic Plus in the course of doing business. **LASERFICHE** serves as the primary content management software system for the City, however, it is impractical for the system to always serve as the most efficient system for certain types of records/documents. No department or its employees shall purchase or implement any type of content management system without the prior approval of the City Clerk/RMLO.

When importing a record into Laserfiche, users shall Import the record as a "PDF". No other types of file formats shall be permitted. Once a document has been properly scanned into Laserfiche (clear, no blank or unreadable pages), the scanned/digital version shall now serve as the master (original) document for the City. Employees shall not maintain a local electronic version of any record that has been scanned/imported into Laserfiche. The hard copy from which the digital version was derived no longer holds value to the City and shall be properly disposed of or destroyed as "OSA" (obsolete, superseded, or administrative value is lost).

Efficient management of an electronic records management program shall include the RMLO/City Clerk and Clerk's Office, Technical Coordinators (IT Department), and Department Ownership; each Department assigns one coordinator who works with the RMLO to achieve a goal of digitization and timely destruction of records.

ROUTINE DESTRUCTION AND REPORTING TO THE STATE

Florida Statutes authorizes the Florida Department of State to establish records retention schedules that identify and describe a record series and to establish a minimum period for which records must be retained before final disposition of the records. Every record series must have an approved retention schedule in place before records from that series can be destroyed or otherwise disposed. Retention and disposition requirements stated in records retention schedules are based upon the administrative, legal, fiscal, and historical value of each records series.

The Records Management Liaison Officer and Departmental Records Coordinators are responsible for the proper identification and storage of records awaiting disposition. If there are documents that do not fit into one of the State established records series, the RMLO shall contact the Division of Library and Information Services to establish a new records series retention schedule and ensure the correct disposition of records eligible for destruction.

Retention values, determined by the State of Florida, are determined by the nature, content, and purpose of the record series and not by the physical format (paper, electronic, microfilm, etc.) in which the series resides. The City of St. Pete Beach shall utilize the

retention schedules as provided by the Florida Department of State, Division of Library and Information Services, including GS1-SL (State and Local Government), GS3 (Elections), GS8 (Fire Department) and GS15 (Public Library).

DISPOSITION OF PUBLIC RECORDS

Section 257.36(6) of Florida Statutes state that a public record may be destroyed or otherwise disposed of only in accordance with retention schedules established by the State. This means that all records must be covered by a retention schedule before disposition can occur.

The RMLO will coordinate with the Records Coordinator(s) at least once annually to identify records that have met their retention period and are ready for destruction, as required by the Florida Administrative Code, Rule 1B-24.003(10). The RMLO/City Clerk maintains an updated roster of the Departmental Records Coordinators.

The RMLO will approve and maintain the completed disposition form. No records shall be destroyed prior to authorization from the RMLO.

The disposition list is maintained on the City's Z drive and/or network drive for use as a reference guide throughout the fiscal year. The list shall be completed by the Records Coordinators in each department prior to submitting it to the RMLO for final disposition.

The most common method of disposing of records is actual destruction. The City of St. Pete Beach utilizes the shred method through a contractor, particularly for paper records containing information that is confidential or exempt from disclosure. The contractor will provide the City with the total number of documents destroyed.

For other non-paper media containing information that is confidential or exempt from disclosure such as audio tape, video tape, microforms, photographic films, etc., appropriate destruction methods include pulverizing, shredding, and chemical decomposition/recycling.

Periodic audits will be conducted by the RMLO to ensure departmental compliance.

FACTORS THAT MIGHT INFLUENCE DISPOSITION OF RECORDS

Litigation - When a public agency has been notified or can reasonably anticipate that a potential cause of action is pending or underway, that agency should immediately place a hold on the disposition of all records related to that cause. Legal counsel should inform the RMLO and/or Records Custodian(s) when that hold can be lifted and when the records are again eligible for disposition.

Public Records Requests - According to Section 119.07(1) (h), F.S., the custodian of a public record may not dispose of a record "for a period of 30 days after the date on which a written request to inspect or copy the record was served on or otherwise made to the custodian of public records by the person seeking access to the record. If a civil action is instituted within the 30-day period to enforce the provisions of this section with respect to the requested record, the custodian of public records may not dispose of the record except by order of a court of competent jurisdiction after notice to all affected parties."

Federal, state, or local laws and regulations - In rare instances, laws, rules, or regulations for specific agencies or specific types of records might require a longer retention than indicated in general records schedules, particularly with newly enacted laws. Agencies should be aware of and contact the RMLO for assistance if necessary.

METHOD TO ESTIMATE THE VOLUME OF RECORDS

The records scheduled for disposal must be measured. The basic unit of volume measurement for paper records management is cubic feet. The Florida Department of State recommends the following guidelines for some common records: letter size drawer or box: 1.5 cf and legal size drawer or box: 2.0 cf. Although added to the disposition form, the file volume of disposed electronic records is not required.

DISPOSITION PROCEDURE

Each year the RMLO/Clerk will contact the Records Coordinator in each department with instructions to inventory and identify records in his/her respective department and complete the draft disposition list. A disposition label will be affixed to the side of each box of

records indicating the department, type of document(s), retention and destruction date. The RMLO will meet with the Records Coordinator of each department to finalize their disposition lists. The Records Coordinator in each department shall transfer all records to the City Clerk's Office in preparation for disposition. The RMLO will compile information from all disposition lists, check the boxes for compliance, and coordinate the disposition. Once the disposition is completed, the RMLO will take receipt of the certification of destruction document and attach it to the State of Florida Compliance Statement. The RMLO will complete the Records Management Compliance Statement, obtain the necessary signatures, and submit the form to the State of Florida for fulfillment purposes. This will finalize the fiscal year record-keeping set by the State of Florida. A copy of the Compliance Statement will be kept on file in the City Clerk's Office during its retention period.

PUBLIC RECORDS REQUESTS

Every citizen has been granted the Constitutional right to inspect or copy any public record with some exemptions in Florida, and the Sunshine Law provides a right of access to government proceedings at both the state and local levels. The City's preferred method of fulfilling public records requests is through the Just FOIA (Freedom of Information Act) software. However, pursuant to Chapter 119, Florida Statutes, requests for public records may be submitted in person, by mail, online submission form, email or telephonically. A public records request does not have to be in writing nor submitted to the Clerk's Office as a prerequisite for completing a public records request.

As Florida law requires that public records be kept in the buildings where they are ordinarily used, this allows for optimum service to requestors. If the department maintains the record(s) in their office, they should provide copies to the individual requesting them at the normal copy charge: Fifteen (15) cents for each one-sided copy of each letter or legal-sized page (five or fewer pages free) and twenty (20) cents for each two-sided copy. After the request is filled, the department shall notify the RMLO/City Clerk's Office, by email, of what records were disbursed.

The City maintains a separate Public Records Request Policy.

DEFINITIONS

Active Records: Records that have sufficient administrative, fiscal, legal or historical value to warrant their continued storage in an easily accessible area (e.g., office area).

Custodian of Public Records: The elected or appointed state, county, or municipal officer charged with the responsibility of maintaining the office having public records, or his or her designee.

Disposition: Final actions taken regarding public records that have met all retention requirements and are no longer needed for current government business as indicated in General Records Schedules or Records Retention Schedules. Disposition may include either the destruction of public records or the transfer of public records to the custody of another public agency.

Duplicate (or Convenience) Records: Reproductions of record (master) copies, prepared simultaneously or separately, which are designated as not being the official copy.

Electronic records: Any information that is recorded in machine readable form. (Rule 1B-24.001(3) (e), F.A.C.; Rule 1B-26.003(5) (e), F.A.C.)

Exemption: a provision of general law which provides that a specified record or meeting, or portion thereof, is not subject to the access requirements of Florida Statutes Section 119.07(1), s. 286.011, or s. 24, Art. I of the State Constitution.

Intermediate Files/Processing Files: Temporary electronic files used to create, correct, reorganize, update, or derive output from master data files. Intermediate files are precursors of public records, and are not, in themselves, public records which must be retained. Intermediate files only exist provided a final product is subsequently generated which perpetuates, communicates, or formalizes knowledge of some type. In the absence of such a final product, processing files constitute final evidence of the knowledge to be recorded and shall not be constructed as intermediate files.

Public records: all documents, papers, letters, maps, books, tapes, photographs, films, sound recordings, data processing software, or other material, regardless of the physical form, characteristics, or means of transmission, made or received pursuant to law or ordinance or in connection with the transaction of official business by any agency, except the records which are exempt under Chapter 119 of the Florida Statutes. If the purpose of a document is to perpetuate, communicate or formalize knowledge, then it is a public record.

Record (Master) copy: Public records specifically designated by the custodian as the official record. (Rule 1B-24.001(3) (j), F.A.C.)

Records inventory: The systematic categorization of records in an agency conducted to develop or identify appropriate retention schedules for the agency's records.

Redact: To conceal from a copy of an original public record, or to conceal from an electronic image that is available for public viewing, that portion of the record containing exempt or confidential information.

Reasonable time: For this policy, "reasonable time" to provide access to public records is during normal working hours Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., excluding holidays. The City will endeavor to acknowledge all public records requests promptly and respond to such requests in good faith. A good-faith response includes making reasonable efforts to determine from other officers or employees within the City whether such a record exists and to respond fully to all public records requests as quickly as possible.

Records Coordinator: An employee of the City designated as responsible for the coordination of public records activities for his/her respective department.

Records Management Liaison Officer (RMLO): The RMLO is designated by the Secretary of State and serves as the department's contact for records management. The City Clerk is the RMLO. In addition, each department shall appoint a Records Coordinator who will be the RMLO's records contact for that department. Address all questions, issues or concerns relating to records to the RMLO.

Retention period: Retention is the minimum period for which a record or record series must be retained before final disposition, based upon the administrative, legal, fiscal, and historical values of the records series. Records may be kept longer than the specified time but never less than the scheduled period.

Supporting documents: Public records assembled or created to be used in the preparation of other records that are needed to trace or explain actions, steps, and decisions covered in the final copy.

Vital records: Records that are essential to the operations of an agency and/or to protecting the rights of individuals and that are needed in order to resume the critical business of the agency after a disaster or emergency, regardless of whether they have a permanent, long-term or short-term retention. Vital records should be identified during the records inventory process and as part of a disaster preparedness program.

REFERENCE LINKS

Florida Department of State, Division of Library and Information Services:

<http://dos.myflorida.com/library-archives/>

- General Records Schedule GS1-SL
<http://dos.myflorida.com/media/698312/g1-sl-2017-final.pdf>
- General Records Schedule GS3, Elections
<http://dos.myflorida.com/media/693583/g3.pdf>
- General Records Schedule GS8, Fire Department
<http://dos.myflorida.com/media/693590/g8.pdf>
- General Records Schedule GS15, Library
<http://dos.myflorida.com/media/693595/g15.pdf>

Florida Department of State, Florida Statutes, Public Records, Chapter 119:

<http://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/>

Florida Department of State, Florida Administrative Code & Florida Administrative Register, Public Records Scheduling and Disposition:

<https://www.flrules.org/gateway/ChapterHome.asp?Chapter=1B-24>

Florida Department of State, Florida Administrative Code & Florida Administrative Register, Records Management-Standards and Requirements

<https://www.flrules.org/gateway/ChapterHome.asp?Chapter=1B-26>

RESOLUTION 2023-22

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH, FLORIDA, ADOPTING A RECORDS MANAGEMENT POLICY ADDRESSING RECORDS RETENTION AND DISPOSITION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, CONFLICT, CORRECTION OF SCRIVENER'S ERROR; AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City Commission of the City of St. Pete Beach recognizes the importance of City records and acknowledges the City's responsibility to manage, preserve and make available City records in a manner that is efficient and lawful; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Florida Public Records Law, Chapters 119 and 257, Florida Statutes, the City of St. Pete Beach is required to establish and maintain a program for the economical and efficient management of the records of its offices, departments, and boards; and

WHEREAS, Florida Public Records Law and Florida Administrative Code Rules establish a single body of law applicable to all public officials and employees on public records management and preservation. Such laws ensure that the procedures used to manage and preserve public records will be uniform throughout the State of Florida.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH, THAT:

SECTION 1. Recitals. The above recitals ("Whereas" clauses) are true and correct and adopted hereby as findings, purpose, and intent of the City Commission.

SECTION 2. The City Commission hereby adopts the "City of St. Pete Beach Records Management Policy" as set forth in Exhibit "A" as the foundation for the management of records created and held by the City.

SECTION 3. Severability. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, word, or portion of this Resolution is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, whether for substantive or procedural reasons, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent provision, and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Resolution.

SECTION 4. Conflict. All prior resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict with the provisions of this Resolution are hereby repealed to the extent of the conflict.

SECTION 5. Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH, FLORIDA, THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2023.

CITY COMMISSION, CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH, FLORIDA.

Adrian Petrila, Mayor

ATTEST:

Amber LaRowe, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

Andrew Dickman, City Attorney

CITY COMMISSION MEETING CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH

Agenda Report

Issue Considered: FY24 Freebee Service Expansion

Date: November 14, 2023

Prepared By: Alaina Grundy, Transportation Planner

Prepared Through: Jennifer McMahon, Chief Operations Officer

Summary of Issue: During the budgeting process, the City Commission approved an additional \$166,000+ in funding for the Freebee micro transit service in St. Pete Beach. Upon discussion with Freebee staff regarding the expanded service, it was determined that the loop service and limited peak hour expansion was infeasible operationally. Freebee instead proposed the following as the service expansion options for FY24.

The following schedule could be implemented with (4) additional vehicles during the high season (Feb-July), or with (2) additional vehicles for the entire year, depending on what the Commission desires. To maximize the efficiency of the service, they recommend adding vehicles during these high in-demand hours for ALL 7 days of the week:

Peak Hour Schedule
4-9pm Monday - Thursday
3-10pm Friday - Saturday
10-8pm Sunday

Either of the above options would give us a total of either (6) or (8) vehicles during the highest demand periods each day.

To provide these expanded service hours, Freebee would need to invest in up to 4 new vehicles as well as new charging infrastructure in a more central part of the city. This is an additional \$250,000 cost to Freebee to expand the service as mentioned above. Freebee is asking that the Commission agree to extend the contract an additional 2 years to ensure that they will be able to recoup this upfront cost. This would also lock

the city in at the existing hourly rate of \$30.60 per hour for the length of the extended contract.

Requested Motion:

Attachments: